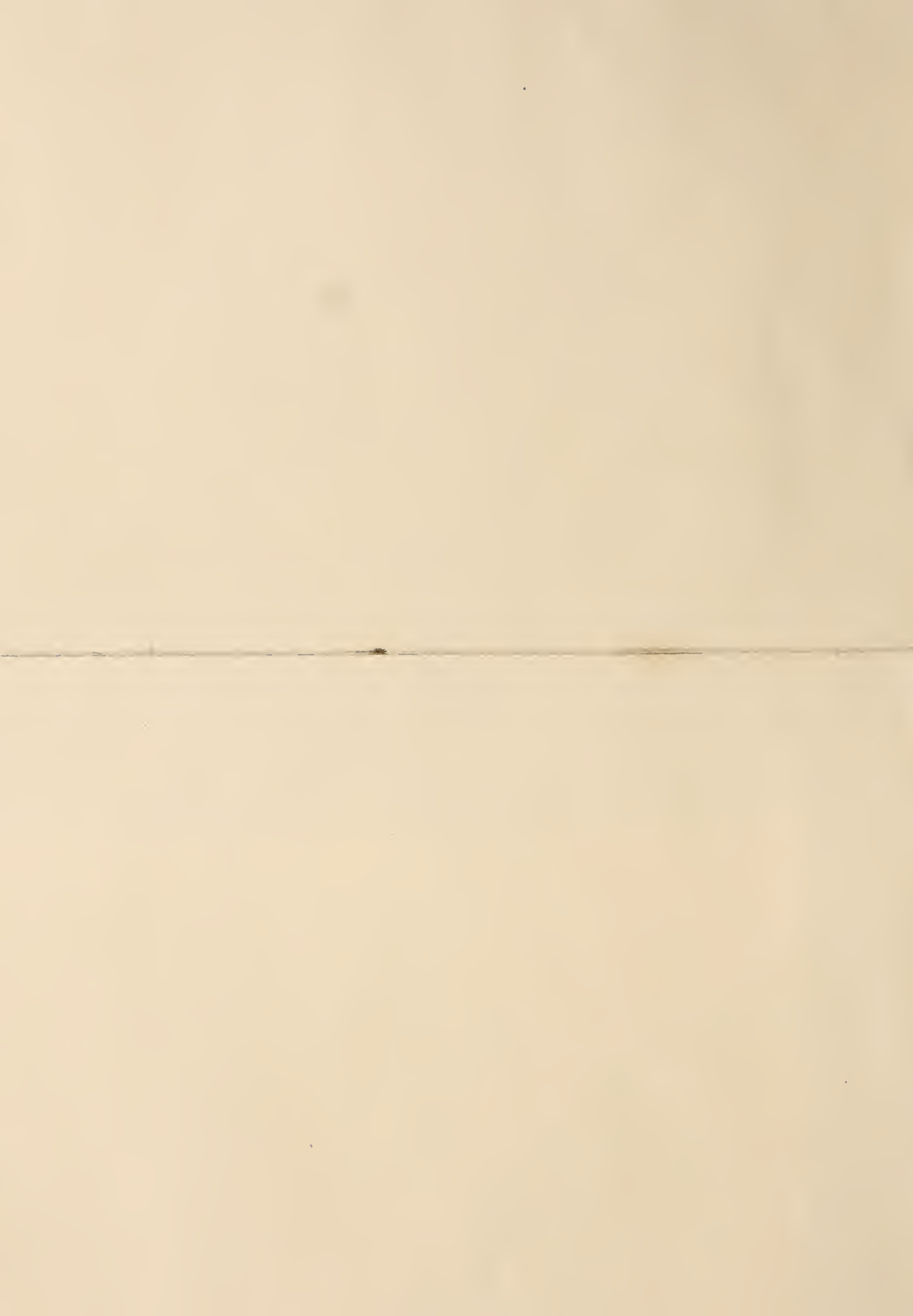


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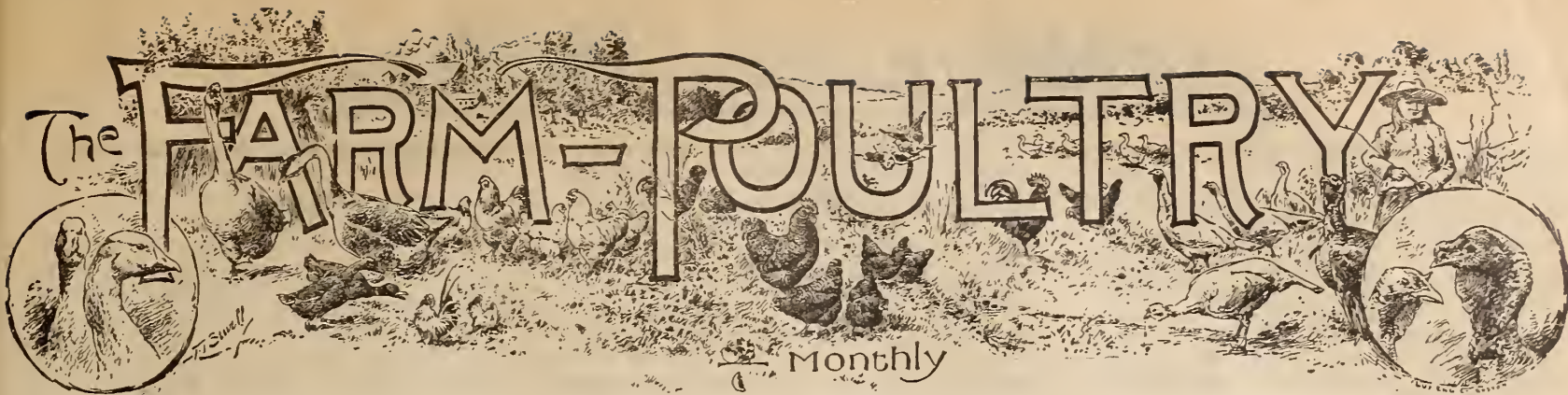
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No. 16.

A Few Suggestions on Standard Revision

IF THE American Poultry Association must revise the "Standard of Perfection," and issue a revised edition in 1910, 'twere well the work be so well done that there will be as little excuse as possible for another general revision five years hence.

The serious faults of the Standard are principally in its form, and are due very largely to incompetent and slovenly authorship and editing. While so far as the substance of descriptions is concerned, it is desirable and necessary that judgment as to what shall be considered "standard" — of the correct type — be in case of each breed the collective judgment of competent fanciers and judges, as to the form of the descriptions of standard points, the literary workmanship of the Standard would probably be far better done if left to one man—provided always that man is competent, that he either knows the points of fowls in which fanciers are interested, or is capable of understanding a fancier's description of them, and can state the fancier's ideas in correct English, and make the parts of the Standard accessory to the descriptions what they should be.

Without placing undue stress on literary style, the Standard of Perfection ought to be a book not conspicuous for faults of literary workmanship. There is manifest incongruity in giving the title, "Standard of Perfection," to a work so crude in literary workmanship—so far below ordinary good work in that line.

In this article we wish to indicate a few of the most conspicuous faults of the Standard from the point of view of ordinary literary workmanship.

The "Glossary of Technical Terms," in such a book should be:—

Complete as to technical terms used in the book, but does not appropriately include terms not used in the book.

Correct defining the forms actually used, not terms which are not used.

Whether the glossary in the current edition of the Standard contains all the technical terms used in the book, we need not here inquire. The presumption based on a running inspection of the glossary is that it does not. We could detect most omissions from a list of words only by checking it over. Superfluous words are conspicuous in the list, as also are terms used where another term would be more appropriate.

The first word defined is "barring," a word we do not find in the book. It would be better to define "bar" and "barred."

"Brassiness" might well be replaced by "brassy." "Brood" is not used at all in the book. There is no more reason for including it in the list than for putting in "incubator."

So with "crop." If crop is defined, why not "gizzard?" If words not used in the text are admitted, why not make a complete glossary of poultry terms?

"Poultry" is defined as "domestic fowls reared for exhibition, for the table, or for their eggs or feathers." An incorrect definition, for "poultry" is a term which includes turkey, ducks, geese, etc., as well as fowls.

A glossary in a book of this kind should be very carefully compiled, and free from such faults as noted. There is no reason why such a glossary should fall below the standards of very ordinary scholarship.

To see how far this supposition is from the truth, take the "Standard" descriptions of the shape of the eye in fowls:

The Plymouth Rock has a full, prominent eye.
The Wyandotte, an oval eye of medium size.
The Java, a large full eye.
The Dominique, a large clear eye.
The R. I. Red, a prominent eye.
The Buckeye, an eye of medium size, full, bright, with bold expression.
The Brahma, a large, fairly prominent eye.

The Cochin, an eye of medium size, mild in expression.
The Langshan, an eye of medium size, full and round.
The Leghorn, an eye of medium size, round and full.
The Minorca, an eye of medium size, full.
The Spanish, a full, open eye.
The Andalusian, a full, bold eye.
The Dorking, a prominent eye, (just like the R. I. Red).
The Redcap, a full eye.
The Orpington, a large eye.
The Polish, a large, full eye.
The Hamburg, a full eye.
The Houdan, a large eye.
The Crevecoeur, a full, bright eye.
The La Fleche, a large eye.

Will anyone seriously maintain that this ringing the changes on a few descriptive terms is to give technically accurate, scientific descriptions of the eyes of these fowls?

Now take "Standard" descriptions of the beaks of these same breeds:—

The Plymouth Rock has a stout, comparatively short, regularly curved beak. Whether it curves upward or downward, or to right or left, is not stated.
The Wyandotte has a short, well curved beak.
The Java, a stout, well curved beak.
The Dominique, a short, stout, regularly curved beak.
The R. I. Red, a short, slightly curved beak.
The Buckeye, a short, stout, regularly curved beak.
The Brahma, a stout, well curved beak.
The Cochin, a beak, short, stout at base, gently curving to point.

The Langshan, a beak, stout at base and well curved.
The Leghorn, a moderately curved beak.
The Minorca, a beak of medium length and stout. (One would naturally infer that it need not move).
The Spanish, a rather long, stout beak.
The Andalusian, a beak of medium size and length.
The Dorking, a beak of medium length, stout and well curved.
The Redcap, a beak of medium size, stout at base, and well curved.
The Orpington, a short, stout, regularly curved beak.



WHITE FACED BLACK SPANISH.
A Once Popular Breed, But Now Rarely Seen.

In the descriptions of birds there is room for a great deal of improvement. First of all statements of this class should distinguish between essentials and non-essentials, and consider whether the adjectives used will adequately and accurately convey the ideas intended. There is much in the Standard descriptions that is meaningless and superfluous, when not positively misleading.

When a description is abbreviated as the statements in the "Standard" descriptions are, it is natural to suppose that it is reduced to essentials, that every word used is necessary, and is the proper word to convey the idea the framer of the description had in mind.

The Polish, a beak of medium length, slightly curved.
The Hamburg, a beak of medium size.
The Houdan, a beak of moderate length, and well curved.
The Crevecoeur, a strong, well curved beak.
The La Fleche, a rather long, strong, well curved beak.

Will anyone seriously maintain that such descriptions are intended to portray typical differences in the shapes of the beaks of fowls of different breeds?

But these are "superficial" points, someone may say. We don't agree with that. Both the shape of the beak and the appearance of the eye are clear indications of constitution and condition. But admitting that such points as have been listed are in themselves of no material value—at least to the consumer of table poultry—let us take the descriptions of the most important section—the breast:—

The Plymouth Rock has a broad, moderately deep, full, well rounded breast.

The Wyandotte, a broad, deep, round breast, with low set keel. (The glossary does not define "keel").

The Java, a long, deep, full breast.

The Dominique, a broad, deep, full breast.

The R. I. Red, a deep, full, well rounded breast.

The Buckeye, a broad, deep, well rounded breast, carried somewhat elevated above the horizontal.

The Brahma, a broad, deep, well rounded full breast.

The Cochin, a breast carried forward, very full, well rounded, of great breadth and depth.

The Langshan a broad, round, deep, full breast.

The Leghorn, a breast well rounded, full, carried well forward.

The Minorca, a round, full, prominent breast.

The Spanish, a full, prominent breast.

The Andalusian, a plump, full breast.

The Dorking, a broad, deep, full, well rounded breast, carried well forward, and a long keel.

The Redcap, a broad, deep, prominent breast.

The Orpington, a broad, deep, full breast.

The Polish, a full, prominent breast.

The Hamburg, a broad, prominent breast.

The Houdan, a round, deep, full breast.

The Crevecoeurs a broad, full breast, rounding well to the shoulders.

The La Fleche, a broad, full, very prominent breast.

Will anyone seriously maintain that these descriptive terms are used in each and every case with fine discrimination?

What is the difference, for instance, in the description of the shape of breast of the Leghorn and Minorca? Who can point the difference between a well rounded, full breast, carried well forward, and a round, full, prominent breast?

The breasts of the Spanish and the Polish are described alike, but they are not alike.

It is apparent on inspection of the above list that the descriptions of breast are generally redundant. The term which is oftenest applied and really covers most ground and expresses most is "full." Whatever the general shape or type of fowl, a full breast is desirable, and deficiency in this respect objectionable. Presumably the redundancy came about because someone in framing the descriptions supposed that redundancy made the description more graphic. Thus in the case of the Spanish, the breast is described as both full and prominent. It could not be one without being the other. In the Andalusian it is described as plump and full. The fact is that in the ideal fowl in all these different breeds the breast is full, and the shape of breast—indescribable in words—peculiar to each breed comes from the combination of fullness of breast with other characteristics, as length or depth of body, or breadth at shoulders, or carriage as affected by length of legs and neck; or from length and texture of plumage.

Comparison of descriptions of other sections would show the same confusion and redundancy. Is it any wonder that the novice with a Standard in his hands so often seems to find it useless until he has learned what fowls should be without the Standard? A few years ago, in the revision of 1898, we think it was, the descriptions of color were simplified. Why should not descriptions of shape be made as simple as possible?

Another point is in regard to the classification of fowls. The classification of the Standard is unscientific; it is not based upon principles or types. It follows types and principles only when its method and the scientific method happen to coincide. The American class contains breeds originated in America, the Asiatic class breeds originating in Asia. The English class breeds originating in England, etc., etc. The last class men-

tioned gives the worst mixup—three distinctly different types of fowls—Dorking, Redcaps, and Orpingtons—in one class. The Redcap is in reality a variety of the Hamburg. The Orpington belongs to the American class, or with the principal breeds of that class. Wouldn't it be well to abolish the "national" method of classification, and substitute a rational one?

In the last revision of the Standard the analytical descriptions of breeds are in some instances prefaced by general descriptions. The method of these is not uniform. Sometimes they are hardly more than reiterations, a little more "extended" of the statements which follow them, and sometimes they appear inconsistent with the analytical descriptions, as when the color of the Barred Rock is described in the prefatory paragraph as "modified black and white," and in the description of color of Barred Rocks as "grayish white," and dark bars "that stop short of a positive black."

Sometimes, too, these prefatory paragraphs are merely perfunctory, and sound like they had been clipped from

one of the scrappy little articles breeders used to supply poultry papers in exchange for advertising.

But, faulty as the working out of this idea appears, the idea itself is good, in so far as it recognizes what the public discovered long ago, that analysis and brevity had been carried too far in the descriptions of the "Standard." They are understandable only to those who have learned what is considered the correct type in form or color independent of the Standard. The fact is, as we have more than once remarked, that the "Standard of Perfection" is a hand book for judges, not for breeders. It is the judges' "prayer book," not the breeders' (or fanciers') "bible."

The introduction of explanatory paragraphs of the character of the principal ones in the current edition of the "Standard" is an admission of the insufficiency of the analytical descriptions. But the natural thing to do in such a situation is to make the principal description what it should be, not to try to patch or prop it with a supplementary description.

The Height of the Poultry House

I HAVE a little poultry house, more accurately described as a coop, (in fact, it was built as a roosting coop for growing chicks, though used for that purpose only a few months), made out of such portions of an old piano box as survived the breaking up of a building in which they had previously been used, and such other old lumber as could be adapted with it, that judging by the uniformly good results from stock put in it must have the desirable properties of a poultry house in uncommon degree.

As will be seen by the illustration on the opposite page, the house is low. The front is almost entirely open—practically so. This front was made to fit an odd sash we happened to have. The sash was used in it one winter, and, I think, part of another, but most of the time has been out, the fowls being kept in when desired by a slatted slide. This house has ever since it has been in use attracted the attention of persons who happened to be caring for the fowls by reason of the evident contentment and thrift of the fowls in it. Even my boy, just in his teens, after caring for all the fowls a few weeks, discovered that this house seemed to have some special virtue.

I've looked and thought that house over a good many times, and the only conclusion I can come to is that the virtue of this house is in its lack of height. I don't base this conclusion solely on observation of the house. I've seen and heard something of other low houses that were very satisfactory. Mr. D. J. Lambert, of Apponaug, R. I., has some he has used for years and likes very much, and I have heard of a man in this state who has had exceptionally good results from fowls kept for months in tiers of coops of which each tier was only high enough for a fowl to stand upright.

I have used other low buildings, but none quite so low as this for adult stock. The building approaching it nearest in height is a narrow building, another makeshift, built for a few ducks, and hardly ever used except in emergencies. In general, I have made it a rule to construct for myself, and advise for others, buildings high enough to work in. I'm not going to say now—and may never say—it is advisable to build lower than that, but I'm beginning to think it is worth while to consider what may be done in the way of devising a poultry house of the right height for fowls that at the same time can be cared for conveniently.

Prof. Rice, in No. 33 of the "Cornell Reading Course for Farmers," says: "A common fault in many hen houses is that they contain too much air space to be warmed up by the bodies of the hens. If the same rule should be followed in building hen houses as is recommended for cow stables, i. e., one cubic foot of air space for each pound of live weight, and if hens are allowed five square feet of floor space per hen, with hens weighing five pounds each the house would be but one foot high. It will readily be seen that if a house is built as low as possible to build it and enable one to do the work conveniently, it will contain more than five times as many cubic feet of air space as the average cow stable."

I've never tried to find the minimum cubic air space per fowl, because in building houses intended to be constantly used for stock birds I have always gone on the principle that the house high enough to work in con-

veniently would give much more than enough air space. The low buildings I have used for adult stock have, as already stated, been buildings originally designed for other purposes. But, if fowls will do better in houses lower than convenient for the keeper to work in, doing the work as it is usually done, lower houses and methods adapted to lower houses are sure to come into more general use. I mention houses first. As a matter of fact, the methods are coming first. Open houses, infrequent cleanings, and hopper feeding are all tendencies toward a general method adapted to low houses.

I have often thought and said that the kind or style of house made little difference in results with poultry, provided no feature positively detrimental to the fowls was present. This view appears to be warranted by the fact that equally good results are obtained in so many different kinds of houses. But there is another way of looking at that point. Before stating it, let me give an illustration that will suggest it. A poultryman skillful in handling many different breeds of fowls, may get approximately equal egg yields from them. It is a fact, though, that certain types and breeds of fowls generally lay better with ordinary handling than others. May not the same thing be true of houses? Is it not possible that the low house—the house too low for the poultryman to move freely about in it—is the best house for the fowls, and enough the best to make it an object to adapt ourselves to it? I do not say that it is, but I see indications that warn me not to conclude that it is not. I think the matter is one for investigation. The investigation of it might well open up anew the whole subject of poultry house construction. There are other points it would be worth while to investigate. There is the matter of snow and rain drifting or beating into an open front house. What effect has the shape of the house on this? What effect has the position of the house with reference to the direction of most frequent storms on this point? Can these points be determined far enough to warrant the formulation of general rules, or must each poultryman work them out for himself and for the conditions in his own locality?

If it should appear that fowls will be more comfortable and productive in a building too low at its highest point for a man to stand and work in, what are we going to do about it? It is not a question of cost. The question of cost may be said to have been settled long ago. In a house which a man must enter daily to do the work the inconvenience of a low house more than offsets the saving in money effected by building low. But if the low building is better for the fowls the question comes up in an entirely different light.

A Plea for Eggs.

Be gentle to the new laid egg,
For eggs are brittle things;
They cannot fly until they're hatched,
And have a pair of wings.
If once you break the tender shell,
The wrong you can't redress;
The "yolk" and white will all run out,
And make a dreadful mess.

'Tis but a little while at best,
That hens have power to lay;
Tomorrow eggs may addled be,
That were quite fresh today.
O let the touch be very light.
That takes them from the keg;
There is no hand whose cunning skill
Can mend a broken egg.

Harpers Magazine, (1853.)

The Autobiography of an Expert Poultryman

Chapter IX.—We Try Winter Chickens.

I SAY *we*. Really it was Bessie, my wife. Jones put the idea in her head. He brought it with him from the Brockton fair. He had met there two men, brothers, who were in the poultry business over in Randolph, doing nothing but growing soft roasters for the Boston market. He got to talking with one of them quite by chance, and found out that they were old school mates of his, boys who had been in the grammar school with him. After leaving school they had worked in shoe factories for a number of years. Then the older brother broke down, and he had to get out of the factory. He went into poultry keeping, and the other helped him both with money and with labor out of factory hours. They began with broilers, and did fairly well with them, but the returns seemed small, and their incubators and brooders were idle too much of the year. That didn't suit men who were used to factory conditions, to steady work most of the year, and often to working overtime.

So they began to try making the incubator season longer. After they were through hatching their own broilers for the period of high prices, they hatched eggs for other people, and they began hatching earlier. I can't give all the particulars of the history of how they gradually worked around to the system of hatching winter chickens as it is carried on now in that section. I don't know whether they were the first to do it or not, but they were among the first, and they made money at it. They made enough so the younger brother quit the factory, and both gave all their time to the business. They told Jones all about it when they found out he was an old acquaintance.

And Jones came home full of it. After he got the sale of stock off his mind he began to tell about his old friends and their winter chickens, and kept it up until I got tired of it, for I didn't believe half of what he said. I thought his friends had probably exaggerated a great deal—to put it mildly.

But my wife, who was usually far more skeptical than I about profits from poultry, seemed to take to this idea from the first mention of it. She wanted me to try it.

"Why," said she, "why not keep the incubators and the brooder house going more time? They are idle more than half the year."

"Haven't we work enough here now?" I asked.

"We might try an incubator full of eggs, anyway. You hatch them for me, and I'll take care of the chickens."

"I'll think about it," was all she could get from me then. But I didn't think about it—not any more than I could help.

Perhaps a week went by, and she got after me again. I happened to be feeling rather grumpy at the time, and declared I'd have nothing to do with it.

"Very well," said she with the most resigned air imaginable.

That was on a Sunday evening.

The next Sunday morning, as I took an early walk around the farm, I noticed that an old shop about sixteen feet square, that I had been threatening to tear down ever since we came to the farm, had been patched up a little. The door, which had always stood open, summer and winter, was closed and locked with a new padlock.

I went over and looked in at the window. The old rubbish had been cleaned out, and what was not appropriate for the wood pile had been thrown on the dump—as I found out as I continued my walk. There were twelve hens set in there.

Of course I didn't have to guess twice to know what they were there for. I felt kind of cheap, for after the way my wife had helped on the farm it was small in me to be so disobliging the first time she really took the initiative in any work with poultry.

I walked on around the farm, and got back to the barn just as Jones was starting for the house with his milk.

"What have you been doing to the old tool house?" I asked, looking toward it as if I had only then discovered the change.

"The Missus has some things in there she thought better be under lock and key."

"What things?"

Jones went on to the house pretending not to hear.

I didn't say anything more then or at breakfast. I went about my Sunday chores as usual. No—not quite as usual, for I kept an eye on the kitchen, and didn't do anything that would take me where I couldn't see from the kitchen to the old shop.

An hour or so after breakfast Bessie went out to the shop. I followed. She was letting the hens off the nests when I opened the door. She looked around as I entered, then went on with her work, paying no attention to me. There was really no reason why she should have done anything different. It was only what she did in the house often a dozen times a day as I went in and out. But I felt like I was being snubbed, and I stood there like a blame fool never saying a word until she got through. Then we both went out.

"What's the need of locking that door?" I asked.

"I prefer to have it locked."

"Where'd you get so many sitting hens? I didn't know we had any."

"We had nine, and I borrowed three."

"Where'd you get your eggs?"

"I bought them with my own money; and as for the hens, I think after all the work I've done for your

guarantee anything about the eggs hatching, but was willing to sell to her then at the price she expected to get for the eggs by holding them until Thanksgiving, fifty-five cents a dozen.

Bessie took ten dozen. From these she hatched 74 chickens, and raised all but 3. The chickens were brooded by hens in coops around the walls of the shop—all chicks having the run of the floor until they were between three and four months old. After that they kept each other warm.

They never were out of the shop at all until after the first of March. The snow was kept shoveled away from a space on the south side, and the door left open, and they went in and out as they pleased. When the snow was gone and the frost out of the ground a yard was made for them of two foot wire netting on stakes. They were fed the regulation south shore ration, cracked corn, beef scrap, and water. By May they were a mighty nice looking bunch of chickens. I'd have been proud of them myself. In fact I felt a little envious. But I never saw them nearer than two rods. You couldn't have hired me to take one step toward that place unless the proprietress had given me a special invitation, which she never did.

One afternoon toward the end of May I noticed when I got home that the chickens were gone. Next day the fence was taken up, and the ground ploughed over, and seeded to something—I don't remember what.

A couple of weeks later as I was getting ready to go to the city, my wife says to me: "Isn't your winter suit too warm for this weather?"

"I'll have to stand it awhile; I can't afford a light suit yet."

I'd about made up my mind I'd have to worry though the summer with my winter suit, which wasn't a very heavy one, for though business was fairly good it seemed to take every cent I could rake and scrape to keep things going.

"You need a new straw hat, too," said she. "That old thing looked shabby last year."

"I guess it'll pass with the rest of my clothes."

She went to her bureau drawer and taking out a roll of bills gave me several, saying: "I want you to go and order a new suit today—and hat and shoes. I can't have you going so shabby."

Perhaps some of you men who read this know how I felt; I hope not. Just the same I was awful proud of that little woman. She had cleaned up a little better than \$90 on that bunch of chickens.

For half a minute I didn't feel like I could take the money. But I knew she'd feel worse about my refusing than I did about taking it.

When September came I didn't wait for Bessie or Jones to mention winter chickens. I brought the matter up myself; we planned to hatch 300 or thereabouts. We were not as fortunate in getting Brahma eggs; we couldn't get anyone to agree to supply what we wanted. The woman who sold my wife the eggs the year before had almost none. I was beginning to feel like giving it up. But Bessie insisted that our Plymouth Rocks, if not as suitable as the Brahmas, would make good chickens, so we put males with the hens in several pens, and set mostly our own eggs. We had fairly good hatches, and before New Year's had a little over 300 chicks. We couldn't hold them as long in the spring as the Brahmas had been held. The earlier ones had to go in March and April, and this cut our profits. We made however a little over \$200 on these chickens without doing less in any other line than we had been doing.

Since that we've grown winter chickens nearly every year—as many as we have room for. Sometimes I think I would have made more if I'd gone into it exclusively, but I like the variety we get with diversified poultry keeping, and I've done well enough without a specialty, though my wife and Jones insist that we would have made more with soft roasters exclusively.

(To be continued).



The Editor's Poultry House Mentioned in Article, "The Height of the Poultry House," p. 342.

This house is not quite 5 ft. high at the peak, and a little less than 3 ft. at the side. It is about 6 ft. square on the ground. It has been used for chicks, for geese, and also for breeding fowls. As few as four and as many as eight or nine Brahmas have been kept in it.

chickens I'm entitled to the use of a few hens for a few weeks if I want them."

"Of course," I said feebly. I wasn't feeling like using my full voice just then—nor pursuing the subject, either.

I felt a little curious as to how she was going to manage, but I didn't feel encouraged to ask her any more questions, and couldn't think of asking Jones for information, though I felt sure he knew all about it, and was aiding and abetting in every way.

I never had the same strange feeling toward anything on my place that I had toward that lot of chickens, and I never had anything on my place that I knew as little about. I made it my business to stay away from the old shop, and ask no questions. What I know about them I learned afterwards by putting together remarks made by my wife or Jones.

It was pure luck in the first place that she got a good lot of eggs at that time. She went to Felch, at Natick for Light Brahma eggs. He hadn't any at that time, and didn't know where she could get them. A few days later he sent her word that a woman who grew chickens for him had a flock of forty or fifty Brahmas that were laying fairly well, and had quite a lot of eggs on hand. She drove over to see this woman. The woman wouldn't

Editorial Page of Farm-Poultry

Our "Scratching Litter."

WHEN we began the department headed "Scratchings from the Litter of Our Exchange Table," we did not fully realize how much material for passing comment this "litter" contained.

It is charged that some of the "scratching feeds" for poultry on the market contain quantities of poisonous weed seeds, and that some are made up largely of grains enough lower in price than the price at which the mixture is sold to give an extraordinary profit.

Since FARM-POULTRY went on the "Monthly" basis, the writer has had time for a much more careful scrutiny of exchanges in general than he has been able to make for nearly ten years before. After such scrutiny we sit back and contemplate the pile "with mingled emotions."

If there were no other literature in the world but that on the table and a few standard books such as the Bible, Shakespeare, and Webster's Unabridged, we'd feel disposed (as we contemplate "the pile") to exclaim in the language of a high official in the A. P. A. when referring to the general situation in that organization before the recent reformation—"rotten, simply rotten."

But besides looking more carefully into the poultry and agricultural journals we have also had time to read a little more in the newspapers and general magazines, and to dip a little into other literature, especially in the way of reading up subjects of the kind that come up incidentally in connection with a "poultry" editor's work, and we must say that in the light of it all our respect for "the pile" is increased.

Class, or trade, journalism has its faults, and they are conspicuous. It also has its virtues,—and they shine by comparison with the faults of some lines of higher "literature;" and as we compare these poultry journals with periodicals of general circulation, established long before the first number of any of them was issued, we can't help noticing that the worst faults of poultry journalism are along lines in which the "higher" representatives of literature do not set them a very good example. The conspicuous faults of poultry journalism, taking a general view of the pile, are inaccuracies and errors due to the bias or the limitations of writers. Such inaccuracies and errors are found in abundance in general newspapers and magazines. Readers detect them in articles relating to matters with which they are familiar, but not in articles on other matters. As purveyors of misinformation, the papers in "the pile" are "not in it" with general publications; yet that does not excuse the poultry journals. They are under special bond to their readers to give correct and reliable information.



Theoretical Improvements on Practical Successes.

A HIGHLY esteemed contemporary with whom we frequently have occasion to differ in opinion, and occasionally as to matters of fact, refers in a recent issue to a statement we made not long ago calling attention to the prevalence of primitive methods in some of the best poultry producing districts in this country, and contrasting the growth of the industry by the methods in use in sections like those about Little Compton, R. I., and Petaluma, Calif., with the appalling array of failures by more "progressive" "np-to-date" and improved methods the monuments of which are so numerous throughout the country.

Our contemporary admits his belief that the poultrymen of the districts mentioned are "making more money, for the amount they have invested and the expense of their business, than any other class of country people who live by the products of their holdings"—then proceeds:—

"Admitting all this proves nothing. * * * It seems to us that our brother did not bring forward a very strong argument when he cited the primitive methods now in use, and left the inference that because these were profitable they were the most profitable. If by following primitive methods, certain poultry keepers are able to make money, we have no reason to assume that they could not make more money by following better and more modern methods. The only argument in the remarks of the brother is that it has been proved that poultry keeping is profitable even when not carried on in a way to make it most profitable. * * * Careful and conscientious experimenters, those who have nothing to gain but to establish uncontrovertible facts in view, have shown that modern methods are best because they save in cost of feed and increase the products of the poultry yard. * * * Let no one follow ancient and comparatively unprofitable methods as long as, in the light of modern research, we can plainly see a better way."

We have not quoted our contemporary in full, but to the best of our understanding nothing has been omitted that is essential in a statement of his view. We frankly admit that in one respect our contemporary has the advantage of us—he found one argument in our remarks; we can find none in his.

What is "the better way," of which he writes? He does not say.

Who are the "careful and conscientious experimenters" who have shown that "modern" methods are best? Our highly esteemed contemporary does not say. He deals in generalities. He has to. His "argument" can be propped up only by generalities. When he gets into particulars the facts are against him, and, as Burns says:

"Facts are chiefs that winna ding,
An' downa be disputed."

A general claim made for "the poultry business," is that more money can be made in it on a smaller investment than in anything else, and that it is easily made; anyone at all can do it—provided he uses proper methods, is industrious, etc.

If then, by primitive or simple, easy methods, calling for the least possible amount of work, people are making more money on their investment and the expense of their business than by other methods—whatever those methods may be called—by what process of reasoning can the conclusion that some other general method is better be reached? Or, is our esteemed contemporary simply deciding the question upon its own authority without resort to logic or facts? It certainly looks that way when he solemnly admits in one paragraph that the people who are the most successful with poultry use "primitive" methods, and in another paragraph as solemnly asserts that the methods which have given them best results are not the most profitable methods.

How is the comparative value of methods measured if not by results? In taking the position he does the editor of our contemporary does about as much as can be done in a few printed lines to show a lack of practical acquaintance with the phase of the subject of which he is writing.

No sensible person would maintain that any system or method was not capable of improvement. Many Rhode Island poultry farmers will tell how their methods might be made more profitable if they could control matters which are beyond their control—and we presume poultrymen in Petaluma and other sections can also see possibilities of improvement. But these men—practical men, who have learned just about how far they can go and what they can do, are wisely cautious about ideas that have been "proved" only by experimenters, or on much exploited plants of the mushroom type while the appearance of success was being preserved.

It would, of course, be too much to expect the editor of our contemporary to go to one of these sections where many men are succeeding by "primitive" methods, and establish a demonstration farm where in a "modern" way he would follow the most profitable methods and show the community and the world the way to make money with poultry; but may we not reasonably ask that he be specific and tell what the methods are that would give more profits?



Inviting and Declining Publicity.

THE *Inland Poultry Journal* concludes its report of facts relating to the resignation of Mr. Ross C. H. Hallock as secretary-treasurer of the American Poultry Association, with this:—

"In explanation of his action, Mr. Hallock made this statement to the writer: 'I consider the fifteen thousand dollar bond I was carrying gave the association full protection, and I have no one to blame but myself for the trouble. I have never before taken orders from anyone. My father is well to do, and I have never worked on a salary until elected to the office of secretary-treasurer of the American Poultry Association, and I realize now that I was entirely too independent in my actions, and I trust the press will say what they have to say about it and be done with it. I am not going out of the poultry business, and I expect to breed White Wyandottes for many years to come.'"

In this explanation Mr. Hallock still further reveals an "attitude" toward the public which has been something of a puzzle to those who have been called upon to consider it. It is reasonably manifest from the position here taken that the fundamental cause of his troubles is due to failure to properly discriminate between what he might do as an independent individual, and what he might do as the agent of others. Why he should have so failed is a question we are not called upon to discuss. We quote his remark especially to comment upon Mr. Hallock's expressed desire that the "press will say what they have to say about it, and be done with it."

It is natural that a man in Mr. Hallock's position should wish this. To a certain degree his wish will be granted. The poultry press will for a few issues be very full of the case. After that there will be only occasional mention of it. But within the time of those who had personal knowledge of this case, the press will never be done with it. The case, its aspects, and its results are public property. Unfortunately for himself, Mr. Hallock has been most prominently brought before the public as chief figure in events of great importance in the history of the organization of poultry interests, in a manner not pleasing to him to have recalled, and the public will long associate his name with these events, and these events with his name. "What is written, is written."

Further, when a case like this occurs it has its uses as a public lesson. Its use in this way may not be pleasant to the individual concerned, but that does not make it less appropriate. This is a point for every one who invites publicity and public confidence to consider—and consider in advance.

If a man is not willing to take the consequences of public mistakes, he should keep out of public life. If a man is not willing that the public and the press should discuss his acts, character, motives, and services from every point of view, he should not ask his fellow men to entrust him with responsibility, or confer honor upon him. Among poultrymen it would be far better if there was less rather than more of the charitable inclination to let the erring ones off as easily as possible. That has been done too often in the past.



How to Make It Satisfactory All Around.

THE POULTRY ITEM pertinently asks whether Mr. Kimmey, as secretary-treasurer of the A. P. A., will be allowed to "hold his job of secretary of the Chicago show." The constitution requires that the secretary-treasurer give his whole time to the duties of his office; also, that he employ a clerk at \$10 per, who shall devote all his (the clerk's) time to helping the secretary-treasurer give all his (the secretary-treasurer's) time to the duties of the office.

The experience of the past year demonstrates that the combination of secretary-treasurer-clerk cannot keep busy without spending money, and a good deal of it. It is proposed to cut the secretary's salary next year, and allow him to do other business not interfering with his duties. It was, we believe, agreed that Mr. Kimmey should retain the election commissionership, it being understood that he would not be a candidate to succeed himself as secretary-treasurer. The ground upon which Mr. Kimmey's holding of the two offices is said to be justified is that he has not been a candidate for secretary, but is the appointee of the executive board, and therefore may continue as election commissioner while serving as their appointee. That may be good law, but we doubt it. At the same time we're willing (as everyone else seems to be) in this emergency to be as liberal as possible (or absolutely necessary) in interpreting the provisions of the constitution not only in regard to the secretary-treasurer holding the election commissionership, but in regard to his doing other work. Indeed we can see how it may be decidedly to the advantage of the association to "construe" Mr. Kimmey the privilege of engaging in other work. If it allows him to do so, he of course would not be given the full sec'y-treas.-clerk salary. Why wouldn't it be a good idea for the executive board and Mr. Kimmey to agree to put in practical operation now the arrangement contemplated to be put in force, after amendment of the constitution, next year, and give Mr. Kimmey \$1,100, the amount proposed for both secretary (\$1,000) and treasurer (\$100)? That would mean a saving to the association of \$920.

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Autumn Thoughts -- Winter Advice.

SOME people have success in the poultry business, but I find them few and far between, considering the number who enter into it.

I have visited a good many small plants, as well as a few large ones this past year. It is easy to tell which one is a success and which one is not; all you have to do is to look around and notice if the poultry houses are kept clean, the yards well cared for, dead hens taken care of, and not left just where you threw them. I speak of this because I have seen it happen. Instead of burying the hen when it was found, it was left for a few days until it began to decay; then it was buried. The best run poultry farm will lose a hen once in a while.

When one goes into the hen business they must "get onto their job," and do things when they see that they should be done, not wait until tomorrow.

I will tell what I think should be done to make a success on a poultry farm. I may not live up to everything I say, but have always been able to clear up \$1.50 or more per hen each year, so have no fault to find with my method.

First get rid of those old scrub hens you have, and get some full blood Wyandottes, Plymouth Rocks, Rhode Island Reds, or any breed that suits your fancy and conditions.

If you are going in for eggs, don't get them from some breeder who makes a specialty of broilers, but buy from some one who breeds for eggs, and be sure that he gets them. You want eggs in November, December, and January to make money. Anyone can get eggs in April. How are we going to know who is reliable and who is not? I know of two men who have large advertisements in poultry papers that read like this: "Eggs and stock for sale from 200 egg strain, all trap nested." Now I know that on one of these farms there is only one trap nest, and that is not in use. The other man is never at home when you call to see his stock, and his wife says he does not allow any strangers to look the stock over unless he is there. If they get orders by mail they fill them, but they don't like nearby trade. This is a raw deal if I ever knew of one. You must get your eggs and stock from some one you know is reliable. I think a good share of them try to do the square thing.

Do clean up that hen house; take out all the old dirt, and fill in with new; fix up the roosts; put in new glass if need be; wash the windows; give the whole inside a good coat of whitewash; fill in each pen with a good lot of litter, no less than six inches; oat straw is the best; don't be stingy, you must keep your hens well exercised or you will fail right here. Now give your hens enough to eat; get a good ration for laying stock, and use judgment; buy good grain; don't buy damaged grain because you can get it cheap. Think of yourself eating damaged food. The hen is just as good as you, and wants good food, and will do her best if she has it. Have plenty of shells, grit, and good fresh water before them all the time. Don't fill up the water dish without rinsing it out. I have seen it done, but you have more common sense than that.

When fall comes and the pullets are beginning to sing about that nice clean nest you have ready for them, you must be careful about selecting out all those that are undersized, way off color, or in any other way unfit to breed from. Last fall I threw out a good many, and sent them

to market, they were what some would say were good ones; but don't be satisfied with just good ones; work to have them better each year.

I am in it for eggs, and I get them when the price is high. I never breed from a pullet unless she laid before January first.

I think my success is due to rigid selection, good feed, and well ventilated houses -- and I have tried to give them good care.

The papers are full of advice on hatching and raising chickens, so I won't discuss that part of the business.

Read this over, then think about it. Do you remember that you did everything just as you should? If you didn't, start in this fall, and don't neglect this or that, but take such good care of your poultry plant that you will be pleased to show your friends your good work.

F. W. PERRY.

North Reading, Mass.

A Chick Story.

Poultry, (Eng.,) is responsible for this:--

"An interesting and somewhat unusual incident occurred at Dagnall, Bedfordshire, last Saturday afternoon. The owner of some property noticed one of his hens on the roof of an old thatched cottage, and was surprised to see a chicken on the bird's back. The hen jumped off the rather low roof on to some stacks of wood, and thence to the ground. She had no sooner deposited the chicken on terra firma than she flew back again to the roof, and brought another chicken; and she repeated the process until there were nine chickens safely landed. The youngsters were in good health and about a week old; and when the owner brought some suitable food they took to it with spirit."

In our younger days we saw a good many chickens hatched in out of the way places, and used to watch with a great

deal of interest to see how they would get to the ground. The hens invariably got them to the ground "dead or alive" within two or three days. One hen that made a nest high up on a big straw stack coaxed the chicks until they left the nest and one by one rolled to the bottom in safety. There was finely broken straw all about, and it was hardly possible for them to get hurt.

Another hen hatched her brood in the mow of a barn which was reached by climbing cleats nailed to the wall. Our recollection is that on the third day the hen came to the ground floor, and the next thing we heard was the yelping of a chick that had tried to follow her and struck the floor with such force that it had to be killed. The rest of the brood were lifted down.

About this story of the hen bringing chicks down on her back,--we'd want reliable witnesses. It is just as easy to believe that she took them two at a time, one under each wing.



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"High Farming at Elmwood," by Jacob Biggle
"Founders' Day in Philadelphia."
"Aliments and Remedies of Live Stock" by a practical veterinarian.
"Raising Pigeons for Profit"
"The National Grange"
"Law for the Farmer"—Answers to Legal Queries
"Farmers' Problems," "What They Are and How to Solve Them"

"The Home Vegetable Garden," "Getting Ready for Winter"
"Some Troublesome Insects, and How to Deal With Them"
"Heart Problems," "Young People's Trials and Troubles Answered Sympathetically by Aunt Harriet"
"How to Dress," "Fall Styles"
"The Family Doctor," "Neuralgia and Its Treatment"
"Young Folks'" Puzzles

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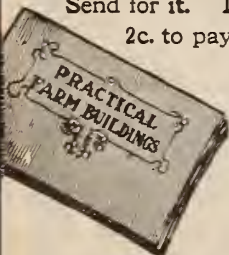
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This cut shows "Iroquois," (first prize winner as cockerel, at Buffalo, N. Y., December 16-21, 1907, where he also won shape special), together with his pen of hens, and one of the piano box houses used by Frank Churchill Sibley, South Bend, Indiana.

Leghorn Types and Laying Qualities.

AT the University College, Reading, Eng., the Messrs. Brown have this year been conducting an experiment comparing laying properties of the English exhibition type of Leghorn with Leghorns of the Danish and American types and stocks. The results of the first six months comparison are reported in a recent issue of *Poultry*, (Eng.)

The report begins with this statement: "For some years a great change has been taking place in English Leghorn fowls, and more especially in the White variety, due, it is believed, to the introduction of alien blood and to breeding for size of body with a view to success in the show pen."

That change has been greatly accentuated of late, and it is not too much to say that many of the present day birds exhibited under the name of White Leghorns are not of the Mediterranean or Italian race at all, but are really crosses with fowls of an Asiatic type, as indicated by their large bodies, long legs, and heavy bone. If only exhibitors were involved by these variations it would be of small moment, but as a result the great quality of egg production for which this breed has been famous since its introduction thirty-five years ago, and which gave it the wide popularity among utility poultry keepers it has held in this country and still holds in America and Denmark, has been sacrificed, and the English show Leghorn is practically useless for economic purposes. As one of the older breeders of Leghorns in this country, Mr. Edward Brown has called attention in his 'Report of the Poultry Industry in America,' (1900,) and his 'Report on the Poultry Industry in Denmark and Sweden,' (1901,) to the fact that in both these countries the original type has been maintained, and that as egg layers the American and Danish Leghorns are vastly superior to British exhibition stock."

For the purpose of comparison five pens of fowls were used: a pen of 7 Danish Brown Leghorn pullets (average weight 3 lbs. 8 oz.); a pen of 15 Danish White Leghorn pullets (average weight 3 lbs. 4 1/2 oz.); a pen of 12 Danish White Leghorn

hens (average weight 3 lbs. 3 3/4 oz.); a pen of 4 American White Leghorn hens (average weight 3 lbs. 9 oz.); a pen of 4 English exhibition White Leghorn hens (average weight 5 lbs.) These are described as having heavier legs than pure Leghorns, but not of the extreme exhibition type.

For the six months the Danish Brown Leghorns laid an average of 98 eggs per hen, the Danish White Leghorn pullets \$1.13, the Danish White Leghorn hens \$7.75, the American White Leghorn hens \$2.25, the English White Leghorns \$5.75.

Commenting on these results, Mr. Brown remarks—"It is not suggested that results from this pen represent in any sense the production of true English White Leghorns bred for utility purposes, many of which would equal the Danish, but it is indicative of the results of the effect produced by changing the character of this fowl for exhibition."

The eggs laid by the American and Danish Leghorns were rarely under 2 oz. in weight, but more than one-third of the eggs laid by the English hens were below the 2 oz. standard.

On its face this looks like a very strong case against the heavy weight Leghorn, but a test with only four hens from one stock cannot be regarded as at all conclusive. In fact the egg yield from this pen is so very low that the first question that rises in the writer's mind is—How is this to be accounted for? We have handled thousands of Leghorns of different varieties, of all type and sizes, and from many different breeders, and never had but one lot that would come anywhere near the low mark of these English hens. That lot was "utility" stock from high record parents. They were never vigorous looking or thrifty birds, and were kept only to see what they would do. We have kept light, medium, and heavy weight Leghorns of both White and Buff varieties side by side, and never found the heavier birds inferior layers, though many of our large birds were very much larger than the English Leghorns used in the test. One of the best layers the writer ever had was a Buff Leghorn hen



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that at 7 months weighed 8 lbs. strong. There is no reason why such a hen should not lay as well as either a smaller Leghorn or a Minorca of the same size and weight. A number of other hens of the same line of breeding weighed about 7 lbs. each, while $5\frac{1}{2}$ to 6 lbs. were the usual weights. Up to $5\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. a very satisfactory Leghorn type may be maintained. It depends more on the conformation than the actual weight. A number of breeders of Leghorns in this country frequently show hens of good type that weigh 5 to $5\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. Such hens sometimes look neither larger nor coarser than hens weighing a pound less, though the tendency in the larger Leghorns in this country is toward the Minorca type. The English Leghorns and Minorcas generally have been regarded as "beefy" when compared with Americans. English illustrations of birds of both these breeds suggest to the American an approach to the Dorking in shape. The writer has had both White and Buff Leghorns of this type. Among the Buffs especially they were frequent in the early years of his acquaintance with that variety. Color was then the most difficult thing to get, and we used birds of good color for what we

could get out of them, regardless of other features that were not such as to absolutely prohibit the use of a bird as a breeder. Our personal preference in large Leghorns was for a bird that began to suggest Minorca lines rather than for the broad backed meaty birds, but we never noticed that the "beefy" birds were inferior as layers—if given proper attention. They did tend to fatten more easily than most Leghorns, and would not stand as heavy feeding. We had White Leghorn hens very much of the "beefy" English type weigh $6\frac{1}{2}$, and in one case 7 lbs., and these were as good layers as the smaller hens. One hen weighing about 6 lbs. laid as large and as nice looking a white egg as we ever saw.

We don't know whether the large English Leghorns have alien blood or not. We do know that it is possible to so increase the size of Leghorns within four generations by selection and care that many people cannot be convinced that the increase was made without crossing.

From our experience with Leghorns we feel that the cause of the poor laying of the English birds used in this experiment must be sought elsewhere than in the weight.



First White Plymouth Rock Hen.
Meriden, Conn., 1908. W. O. Rogers, 45 Main St., Norwich, Conn.

Original Laying Capacity.

EDITOR FARM-POULTRY:—Your answers to Dazed Poultryman, on page 330, are instructive. I desire to call attention to the answer No. 4.

The Mallard duck in the wild state lays 12 to 18 eggs. In captivity it will lay 80 to 100 if the bird is confined at night in a pen and has liberty (in pond or large enclosure) during the day, and the eggs removed daily. As far as my experience goes this is the case with no other variety of duck. The others will desert their nest and stop laying if their eggs or nest are troubled. The Mallard is the original ancestor of the Rouen ducks, and when taken into captivity grows large and coarse in a few generations. It is necessary to constantly use wild drakes to maintain the fine lines and graceful carriage of the wild bird. E. H. AUSTIN.

Gaylordsville, Conn.

I am glad to get from Mr. Austin, who makes a specialty of domesticating wild water fowls, a statement regarding the laying capacity of the ancestors of a breed of domestic ducks which tends to confirm a theory of mine as to the laying powers of the originals of our domestic fowls.

I have always been somewhat skeptical about primitive hens laying on a few eggs, and their laying capacity having been developed in a state of domestication. The idea that the little jungle fowl was the ancestor of all domestic races never seemed reasonable to me. I have always regarded it as more probable that the jungle fowls most resembling domestic bantams were from domestic stock that had run wild.

Recently I have been much interested in accounts of the efforts of some English fanciers in India who are experimenting with crosses of jungle and tame fowls, and have been impressed by the apparent wildness and untamableness of the jungle fowls. It does not seem to me credible that primitive men would undertake to domesticate creatures as wild and shy as these jungle fowls, which—as these experiments indicate—are very reluctant to breed in captivity. It does not seem reasonable to me to suppose that human beings at any time would persist in attempts to domesticate a fowl of the size of a jungle fowl, that was not especially prolific and that had the reverse of a domestic disposition.



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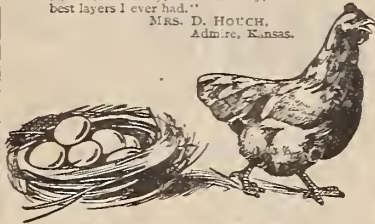
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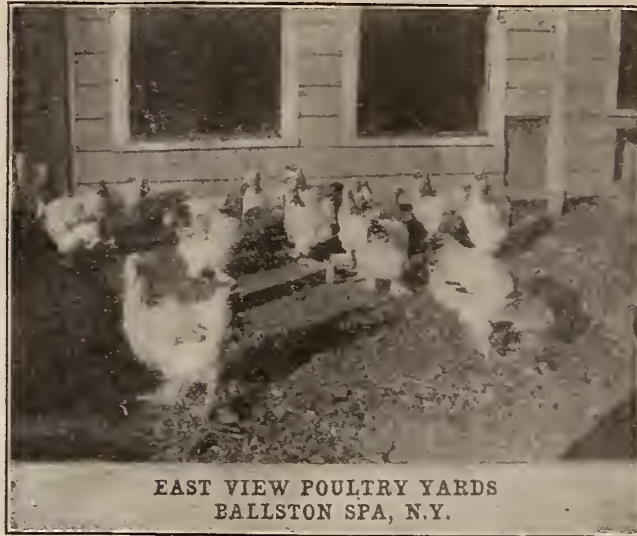
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Points on Incubation and Brooding.*

IN STARTING the incubator, the manufacturers' directions are sufficient, and their instructions for operating are as good as can be given in a general way for all parties and all conditions; but right here is where the difficulty, the mystery, and all of the varied opinions and controversies begin. If it were possible to have the very same conditions in everyone's incubator room, the same instructions would apply to all; but until then, no rigid fixed arbitrary rule can produce the best results. To illustrate the different conditions that it is possible to obtain, divide the humidity into the following classes: Very wet, wet, damp, normal, dry, and very dry; then divide the ventilation into very poor, poor, fair, good, and very good; then make as many divisions of the temperature, from freezing to 85° or 90° above; now figure up the number of combinations that there are in all of the above features, and see what the little insignificant embryo chick must contend with before the operator begins to manipulate the machine at all.

In starting an incubator, the best thing to do—and it is not difficult—is to follow the manufacturer's directions, and then by careful experiments, and records of them correctly kept, ascertain just how the best results can be obtained under one's own conditions. Now this seems to leave the party seeking information right where he began, but it does not if he thoroughly "digests" it, or grasps the writer's idea. Suppose a party buys his first incubator, and before starting it he goes to half a dozen different poultrymen, all equally successful, and finds out just how each one is running his machines; the chances are more than even that there will not be two of them that are doing exactly alike, and the party finds himself more bewildered than ever, when, as a matter of fact, they have all been honest with him, and are doing the very best that can be done under their conditions. For instance, one may run his as high as 104°, and perhaps is "airing" or "cooling" the eggs a great deal; where another may run his from 102½° to 103°, and is not airing his eggs at all; again, one may not supply any moisture at all, where another will be sprinkling them twice a day; and another has a wet sponge or some water pans in the incubator, or a wet blotting paper around the heater, and another will wet the floor down wet; then there are all kinds of ways of ventilating both the incubator and the room, so that I will have to reiterate, as above, that there is no one rule that will apply to us all.

With all of the above explanations, so that no one will be misled, I will now try to explain what my conditions are, and how I handle my incubators. The cellar is 12 x 26 feet, and 5 feet deep to the top of the stoning, and the roof sets right on the stone work. The floor is not cemented,

as the tendency would be to make it too dry, and we intend to keep the floor good and damp all of the time. The roof is sheathed up on each side about 4½ feet on the rafters, then level across the top, thus forming an air chamber, which helps to maintain an even temperature in the room. For ventilation there is an imitation fire place in the stone work at one end, which leads up to a wooden chimney, and there is on this same end a window 30 x 30 inches, which is always open excepting in a driving storm, or when it is so cold that the incubators cannot be kept up to the proper temperature readily. The entrance is at the other end, with a door at the top and bottom of the stairs, each door having a slide 8 x 12 inches, which is used for more ventilation, and there is a small ventilator out through the roof. There is no heat supplied other than the incubator lamps.

In this room there are eight No. 3 Standard Cyphers incubators, holding from 380 to 400 eggs each, according to the size of the eggs, of the 1906 and 1907 patterns, having the drawers for the chicks to drop into after they are hatched, and the drop bottom; and they also have an electric light placed close to the thermometer, so that the temperature can be read easily and correctly. The temperature is then brought up to 102½°, and the eggs put in, which will bring the temperature down again, but when it gets up to 102½°, which it should do in less than half a day, the ventilating holes in the bottom of the machine are opened. The lamp is filled and the char rubbed off (not trimmed) of the wick, and any black incrustation that may have accumulated on the burner scraped off every day; and if the porous brass plate around the wick tube gets fouled up, that must be taken out and thoroughly brushed off.

The eggs are not turned the first two days, but after that they are turned night and morning every day until they begin to pick the shell, excepting the days when they are tested. The heat is not allowed to get above 103° during the first week, but during the second week it will naturally rise a little, owing to the animal heat that will begin to develop in the eggs; but if it goes much above 103°, take the eggs out, or leave the door open and cool them down again. About the time they begin to pick out, if the heat goes up to 104½° or 105° of its own accord, let it remain; but if it goes any higher, bring it back with the regulator, but do not open the door.

The chicks are not allowed to drop down into the drawers until they are nearly all hatched, as there is quite a difference in the temperature in the two places, and by keeping them up on the tray until a good part of them are thoroughly dried off and smart, then the smartest ones will come to the front, and so many of them drop down in so short a time that none of them get injured by the change of the temperature, as they keep each other warm. The door is not opened until the morning of the

A Bird's Eye View



of a city doesn't do justice to it, because it only gives an idea.

The same applies to this advertisement; it only gives a small idea of the Tubular qualities.

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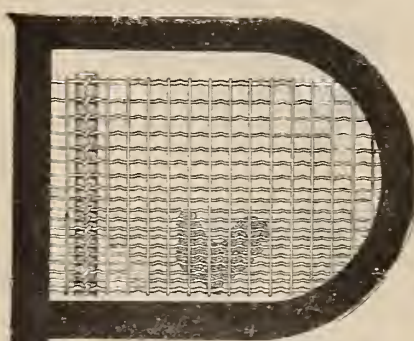
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*Excerpts from an article by Henry D. Smith, in August Coop Report of Massachusetts Board of Agriculture.

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twenty-third day, when they are taken to the brooder, and the machine cleaned up thoroughly and set again.

* * * *

Under the above conditions the airing or cooling of the eggs is not practiced, except when they get too warm, the theory—and it is well borne out by experiments—being that if the room is well ventilated, so that the air is kept good, and the proper temperature maintained, the embryo gets all that is needed through the natural circulation that is taking place in this kind of an incubator all the time. On the other hand, if the air is so vitiated that it feels close or "stuffy," and smells strong of the fumes of the lamps, and so that one is glad to get out after staying in there a few minutes, (and many of the incubator rooms are in just this condition), and the air in the incubator cannot possibly be any better, in fact, not as good as the air in the room, it is quite likely that a reasonable amount of airing is beneficial, but not the cooling, unless the temperature is too hot. There is no question but that the embryo chick needs oxygen, and that being an accepted fact, it must be far better to give it good oxygen all of the time than to give it inferior oxygen, and in spasmodic doses, at that. It makes quite a difference, too, in what temperature they are aired, as well as at what stage of the process; for to air them considerably where it is not too cold, during the last week, will do no harm, and under some of the above conditions will be of benefit, but to air them during the first week is a great mistake, especially if the temperature is anything but warm.

* * * *

The first requisite in the artificial raising of chickens is the brooder; and when one considers that the most important factor that brought the chicken into this world as a living being was heat, and that that heat had to be about right in order to produce a strong healthy chick, it will be easy to understand that the temperature in the brooder must be about right to have the chicks live and do well, because that important factor does not cease as soon as the chick gets out of the shell, but remains in full force for several weeks. No one would think of taking a little chick out of an incubator, where the temperature is above 100°, and turning it loose to shirk for itself, with no old hen to cuddle up to to warm itself; so it was necessary that some way be devised to supply the proper heat. But the next question is: What is the proper temperature, and how shall we provide it? The writer works on the plan that if there is a suitable place provided that is a little too warm, and if the temperature is gradually and continuously decreased to a place that is too cool, the chick will instinctively find the place that is just right, providing it is healthy.

The brooding house is 14 feet wide, 6 feet 3 inches high between a cement floor and plastered ceiling, has a walk on the north side 33 inches wide, and is divided into 10 pens, with a window of 9 x 13 glass to each pen on the south side. There is a ventilator 7 inches square over either dividing fence, making 5 in all, which just reaches through the ceiling, then the space above the ceiling has two ventilators 16 inches square out through the roof. The board partition between the walk and the pens is 30 inches high, and just in front of this are the hot water pipes, and in front of these are the return pipes. These pipes run the whole length of the house through the pens, and are 6 inches above the cement floor; they are supplied from a heater that is at one end down in a pit that is 4½ feet deep and about 7 feet square. An even temperature is maintained by an electric regulator that will open and close the drafts automatically within 1° of a given point; and if for any reason the temperature gets too hot or too cold, it rings a bell in the attendant's room. For instance, the fire may get low, or a door blow open, or a window drop down, or the attendant may neglect to wind up the machine, etc., but with this arrangement he is notified before any damage is done.

Coarse sand or fine gravel is put all over the floor and up to within two to three inches of the pipes, and the temperature in this space under the open pipes is kept at 90° F.; but for the first ten days there is a cloth frame 30 inches square laid over one end of the pipes in each pen for

the little chicks to have a place where there is no draft, and the temperature will run up to from 95° to 97° under this cloth, with the temperature at 99° under the open pipes as above. This makes a place that is a little too warm, and as the chicks grow older, so that they do not need so hot a place, they will work out under the open pipes, where it is 90°; and when this is too warm they work out under the returns, and from here just out in front of all the pipes, and so on by their own instinct finding the heat that just suits them, and there is no incline or stairs for them to learn to climb, or stay out and get chilled, but the whole width of the pen is heated, and is wide open for them to go where they please. During the first four days there is a board put clear across the pen about one foot in front of the pipes, and wide enough to reach from the sand up to 3 to 4 inches higher than the pipes; this prevents an undercurrent of cold air from drawing in under the pipes, right onto the young chicks, which is more than they can stand. As the heat is generated in the pipes, and rises at once, the cold air rushes in to take its place, hence this undercurrent. After the first four days this board is moved away a little every day until about the seventh day, when it is taken away entirely. In one of these pens, 6 x 11½ feet, are put from 100 to 125 chicks right from the incubator, and they are kept there until they are feathered out enough to go out to the colony houses where there is no heat.

The little chickens are fed sparingly, yet enough, five times per day at first, with any good mixture of fine grains and seeds that has a good variety, such as the Cyphers chick feed, scattered all about, and a dry mash composed of two parts of bran and one part of Indian meal, and a few beef scraps. The dry mash and beef scraps are fed on a board 12 x 24 inches, with a lath tacked around the edge. Then of course they must have plenty of good water, and if the sand is right they will get what grit they want out of that, and they must have some sort of green stuff, it does not matter much what, so long as they eat it. Under the above arrangement they have the whole run of the pen after they are a week old, and then the first fair day they are allowed to go out doors a little while each day, and in a few days more, according to the weather, all day.

* * * *

One of the greatest obstacles in the rearing of chickens artificially is what is known as the "white diarrhea," and the writer had it here for years, but not for the last three seasons. If the temperature during the whole process is kept where it should be from the time the eggs are put into the incubator until the chicks are three to four weeks old, there will be no "white diarrhea." If one will notice how the chicks are taken down, it will be found that they do not eat as much as they should, but drink a great deal of water, which shows that they are feverish, and this is either caused by a lack of sufficient warmth, or because they have been chilled.

Then comes the question of what is the proper heat in all of the different stages of the process; and about this time there is another element that enters in, and that is, if a chick comes into the world in a good strong vigorous condition, it can stand considerable ill treatment; but if it is not very strong, perhaps has not had just the right heat in the incubator, or the old stock was not just right, and yet is possible to raise it with the right kind of treatment, it must have a chance to get where it is warmer if it wants to. The cooling process referred to under the head of incubation can be carried to such an extreme that will produce just this trouble, and then there are several ways by which it can be brought on in the brooder. One way is to run the heat too low all of the time, and in this last case it need not be much too low, either; then it may be run warm enough practically, but the fire goes out, and the longer it remains out, and the lower the temperature goes, the more likely they are to receive the chill necessary to bring on this trouble; and again, the younger the chick the greater the danger. Then there are brooders that are so constructed that the little chicks do not know enough to find the place where the proper heat may be, after they are once let out; and one will often see them in various numbers huddled up in some corner try-

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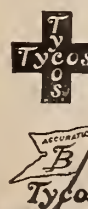
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ing to keep each other warm, which means white diarrhea in a few days. In this last instance it may happen that only a few get chilled, and they may be the only ones to have it; then, if the party has used some concoction as a remedy, he may think that the remedy was what

cured the rest of the lot, when, as a matter of fact, they never had it at all. So the best remedy is to give them a chance to go to any temperature they want, and so arranged that the little chicks right out of the incubator cannot help finding it, in other words "fool proof."

The Editor's Question Box.

Instruction in Poultry Culture. (S. W.)—"In the May number of your paper I noticed an article about a poultry class at the Rhode Island College. May I ask you for the address of this institution? Can you give me the address of some institution which teaches poultry keeping? My intention is to send a young relative of mine to a place where he can learn the theoretical and practical side of poultry keeping, with the view of starting in business next year."

The Rhode Island Agricultural College is located at Kingston. Many other state agricultural colleges now provide instruction in poultry culture: The Maine State University, at Orono; the Connecticut Agricultural College, at Storrs; the Pennsylvania Agricultural College at State College; the Ohio State University, at Columbus; Cornell University, at Ithaca, N. Y.; the Kansas Agricultural College, at Manhattan; Nebraska State University, at Lincoln; Iowa Agricultural College, at Ames; North Carolina Agricultural College, at West Raleigh. I give these from memory. I think that Missouri, Mississippi, Tennessee, California, West Virginia, and perhaps some other states are also giving some instruction in poultry culture.

When is "Now?" (L. C. T.)—"In your most excellent book, 'First Lessons in Poultry Keeping' chapter XVII.—'Keep the Young Stock Growing,' you speak of the fact that 'now' the greater part of the young stock should be fed all it will stand, etc. I would like to ask when 'now' is. I have about fifteen April pullets that I hope to get eggs from this fall. They are some Plymouth Rocks, some B. Leghorns, and some cross between Plymouth Rock and Brown Leghorn, and some cross between Brown Leghorn and Wyandotte. When is the proper time to get them into winter quarters? They have had free range all summer, and are well grown fine large pullets. Also on page 135, of that same chapter, 'Putting the Stock Into Winter Quarters,' when is 'now?' What is the time to do this?"

"Now" in the connections referred to means about October 1st. The lessons were first published serially in FARM-POULTRY. After the plates for the paper were made, the same type was rearranged for the book pages. I aimed to change every expression appropriate in the paper that would not be clear in the book, but some got by.

A Variety of Questions "of Small General Interest." (J. D. S.)—"I wish information on a number of practical subjects, viz.—(1.) Method used by dealers in determining age of eggs by candling. (2.) Points of fowls to be selected for breeding the most attractive and profitable broilers and roasters—that is to say, how to select fowls that will produce chickens that will give in the short time broilers and roasters of the best appearance and small proportionate waste in dressing. (3.) Instruction as to the best methods of dressing and preparing chickens and fowls for market. (4.) Directions for caponizing cockerels, and a discussion of its profitability. (5.) In a cross say of a Light Brahma male with White Wyandotte females, how would the size of the male parent affect the progeny? Would there be a tendency for an increase in the size of the females?—males?—or would it be distributed? If you can refer me to a discussion of any or all of these subjects you will oblige me greatly, as they are of small general interest. I enclose an envelope for a reply by post. I also enclose a check for \$50c."

FIFTY PULLETS

Wh. Fly. Rocks

laying and about ready to lay. Well grown and good strains. **SAMUEL KNOWLES,**
Maple St., Lexington, Mass.

and ask that your office send me your book on 'Broilers and Roasters.' Can I obtain copies of F.-P. containing the indexes for several years past?"

This is a sample of a numerous class of letters of inquiry received at this office. Mr. S.'s letter was briefly answered by mail to the effect that in the book and through the indexes he requested he would probably find most of the information he wanted. His general questions are all of general interest, so general that most of them are treated in books or important articles. To his special questions, the first and last, he might also find answers, but might look a long time before finding them, because the first question makes an erroneous assumption, and the last is a special question only in form, and if he looked for a special answer to that special form of question he might fail to find it.

Candling does not determine the age of an egg. It determines the condition, which depends very largely upon how the egg has been kept. By candling, that is holding before a strong light in a dark room, the person testing the eggs can see how much the contents have shrunk, and also any evidences of decay. It is generally held that the female has more influence on the size of the progeny than the male. This theory seems to be contradicted by the general fact that in crossing birds of large and small breeds the progeny are generally intermediate in size.

How Make the Most of What He Has. (K. M.)—"There are few about here to talk poultry, and no one that will criticize what I do—to me. I have bought a farm of 45 acres—25 woodland; I have one made over henhouse, 12x12, one shed made into two pens, 16x14 and 12x14, and one A house 20 feet square on the ground. 45° pitch to the roof. For chickens I use 20 A houses 12 x 6 on the ground—four feet of one end boarded and papered, the rest a wired run, and four piano boxes laid flat with 10 x 10x1½ feet covered runs. These runs can be placed in any one of four positions without moving house. None of the houses have anything but dirt floors. I have enough young stock to fill the four houses with pullets this fall. All houses are mostly wire in front. I have four incubators, 1500 egg capacity, but no brooders (I don't like lamp brooders), and no brooder house (my previous experience being with a hot water house) no means of building a brooder house. How shall I make the most of what I have? I want to start the incubators in January if possible. I can sell day old chicks. How many could I handle under hens? How would the Philo system work?"

I infer from what Mr. M. says that his total laying stock this winter will be the pullets in the four houses. The capacity of these houses is not over 200. That would not give him many hens to use to brood his chicks. From what I have seen of the Philo system, I think it might answer his purpose. I was on a large plant not long ago where it was used last winter to take care of chicks in excess of the brooder capacity. The proprietor said the chicks did well, but required constant attention for the first few days until they learned to go in and out. If I were in Mr. M.'s place I'd try and trade one or two of the incubators for a few brooders. I wouldn't attempt to use so much incubator capacity without approximately adequate brooder capacity, unless to hatch to order the chicks to be taken from the incubator.

Poultry Bulletins. (C. E. W.)—"What state experiment stations issue bulletins

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on poultry? When are they published, and how can they be obtained?"

Poultry bulletins are issued irregularly by a large number of the experiment stations. The bulletins are generally distributed free to all applicants in the state issuing them, to the agricultural press, and, of course, to other experiment stations. Persons wishing to procure bulletins from stations outside of their own state can sometimes get them free, sometimes at a small cost, and sometimes not at all—it depends on the policy of the station issuing the bulletin, and upon the supply. To keep fully informed of bulletins as issued, the best way is to subscribe for the Experiment Station Record, issued from the office of experiment stations of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. It is issued monthly, and the subscription price is \$1.50 per year. It gives each month a list of bulletins and other publications on agricultural subjects, briefly describing each, and occasionally giving quite a complete abstract or liberal quotations. We usually mention important bulletins of the different stations as issued; but have never made any effort to announce all.

Unabsorbed Yolk.—Bowel Trouble. (G. E. P.)—"In hatching chicks in incubators I have quite a few hatch with yolk unabsorbed, especially those that hatch a little late. What is the cause of this? Is there any cure for bowel trouble in little chicks? I feed dry feed, and do not feed until forty-eight hours old. The trouble begins about fifth to seventh day. Also, what causes cripples in incubator chicks?"

Imperfect development of the chick is perhaps as good a general statement of the failure to absorb the yolk as can be given. Why the chick should in any particular instance fail to develop normally and hatch at the usual time, can only be known when we know the facts in the case.

Some say cripples in incubator hatched chicks are caused by failure to turn eggs properly. In a tray full of eggs some may be missed unless one is careful and systematic in turning.

Causes of bowel trouble in young chicks are numerous. In case a number of chicks in a lot were hatched with yolk unabsorbed, it might be anticipated that others in the lot would develop disorders for the same conditions which retarded the development of some chicks might have had effects on others in other ways.

Cost of Feed and Profit. (A. D.)—"In this vicinity a good many are getting discouraged over poultry because of the high cost of feed. I know that the increased cost of feed over 1905 for instance is at present prices almost 30%, but it does not seem to me that even that is sufficient to wipe out the margin of profit from the average poultry flock, even though the price received for the product is not materially increased. It seems to me that when they can they ought to do more rather than less in the poultry way so as to make up by the number of birds for the diminished profit per bird."

While the cost of feed is an important matter, it is not always the principal factor in profit. If a poultry keeper's stock is doing well—hens laying, eggs hatching well, losses of chicks small, and chicks growing thriftily—he is not likely to be worrying over the price of feed, (though higher than he likes to see it), for he can quite certainly count on a fair profit under such circumstances. It is when things have not gone well, and prices of grain are high, that poultrymen get discouraged; and I don't know that any general rule can be given as to how to make the best of things in such cases.

On general principles, I'd take a partially opposite view as to the best policy from that expressed by Mr. D. Most poultry keepers attempt too much. They try to carry more stock than they have room for, or more than they can take proper care of, or to grow more young stock than they can carry financially until they are ready for market. When grain is high, and there is any question of the probability of carrying the stock, or a part of it, I would, as a rule, get rid of the stock.

There might, however, be cases in which in the end it would pay to carry stock, though had to be carried for some time at a loss. Especially is this so when a

reduction of stock would too much curtail operations in the following season, because when we let stock get low, or get behind the season with it, we often find it hard to get things where we want them again.

Matched Boards for Poultry Houses. (S. W. S.)—"In the descriptions of many poultry houses they say cover the roof and sides with some prepared roofing like Paroid, and use cheapest boards. That must mean square edged. What is the object in using the paper covering? Would not matched boards planed and painted for the sides be as cheap, and look better?"

When a building is to be covered with paper the cheapest quality of boards can be used. The paper makes a smooth and durable and absolutely wind and waterproof surface. All that is required of the boards is to properly carry or support the paper. They may be shaky, split, knotty, all lengths and widths, provided they are boards. The paper if properly laid will last a very long time, presenting always a perfect surface. Ordinary matched boards will soon open at the joints. Flooring of good quality is costly, and does not give as satisfactory a surface as paper. Just how long the "papers" of the Paroid class will last, I don't know. I have some Ruberoid that I used first on one building for three years, without painting. That building was torn down, and after being out of use for a year some of the old roofing was used to cover the roof of the house illustrated on page 343. It has been there for four years with no preservative on it, and is still water tight. Properly painted such materials should last a lifetime.

Laying Powers of Hens. (J. R. M.)—"I am not in the chicken business, and know very little about it, although deeply interested. I have 32 Buff Rock chickens and 3 hens; 2 Buff Rock and 1 Barred Rock. The chickens are not growing as well as I think they ought. They will weigh about 1 or 1½ lbs. I should think. The hens are laying what seems to me to be an exceedingly large number of eggs, and it is to ask your paper for information as to the number of eggs a hen will lay, that I am writing this letter. The Barred Rock is about 1½ years old, and she started to lay June 25, '08, after bringing up a brood of chickens, and has laid 72 eggs to date, inclusive, and shows no sign of a stop. The Buff Rock started to lay July 3, '08, after also bringing up a brood of chicks, and has laid 65 eggs. The third hen has not done anywhere near as well, being about the same age as the second, (about 2 or 2½ years), and starting to lay Aug. 8, '08, and laying to date 21 eggs. Now I don't know whether this is abnormal or not, and am asking you to tell me about how many eggs a hen will lay."

The number of eggs a hen will lay in a year is not definite and fixed. Some lay much better than others. The product of individual hens producing normal eggs varies from 30 or 40 to 200 and over—about 150 being average. It is not unusual for hens that have hatched and reared a brood, and thus had a long rest followed by a period of good feeding, to lay as the hens in this instance have.

Rhode Island Red Color. (Mrs. F. S.)—"Will you kindly tell me in your next issue what color a pure bred Rose Comb Rhode Island Red should be? I purchased 30 eggs of that variety last April, and hatched only 5 chicks, and I understood they were all one color, that is, red, while mine are red, black, and white. I send you a feather of one of the pullets. They are more mottled than the cockerels. They have feathers like sample in neck, wings, and tail. The body color is like the red in the sample. They also have a few white feathers in wings. No one in this vicinity raises them, so I cannot tell whether they are pure bred or not, and I wished to use them for breeders next spring."

The feather sent is from wing or tail, but is so immature that I cannot positively say which. Rhode Island Reds have a great deal of black in these sections, and white in wings is a common fault in all colored birds. What little red there is on this feather is of nice shade. On the slight evidence of the feather and the letter, I see no reason to suppose that these birds are not what they should be. The white in the wings may disappear in later molts.



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A FEW LIGHT BRAHMA HENS and cocks for sale. Prize winning stock. Balch & Brown, Manchester, Conn.

BREEDING STOCK.

BUFFINTON will sell good stock at a low price both fowl and chicks. Buff Plymouth Rocks, Buff Leghorns, Buff and Columbian Wyandottes, R. C. R. I. Reds and White Cochins Bantams; 1 extra nice Golden Pheasant cock \$5. Rowland G. Buffinton, Somerset, Mass.

FOR SALE, 200 yearling hens, White Wyandottes, Rhode Island Reds, S. C. White Leghorns; great laying strains \$1 each; \$9 per dozen. Geo. S. Bowen, Eastford, Conn.

400 FINE R. I. Red and W. P. Rock yearling hens, 75c. and \$1 each. Extra good laying stock; must be sold at once, as I need the room. C. A. Sanborn, Woburn, Mass.

WHITE AND BUFF WYANDOTTE cockerels, \$2, \$3, \$4 each. Big blocky farm raised. Shape, color, comb, eye right. High scoring heavy laying brown egg strain. Show winners 10 years; breed strong true to type. C. E. Davis, Warner, N. H.

5 BARRED P. Rock, 5 R. I. Red cockerels \$2 each. H. Greenwood, 94 E. River St., Hyde Park, Mass.

BUCKEYES.

BUCKEYES, 1st at Mad. Sq., Chicago, Cinn., Elmir; eggs, stock. L. T. Place, Meshoppen, Pa.

CHARCOAL.

POUULTY Charcoal, only \$1 per hbl.; \$4.50 in 5 bbl. lots; coarse for hoppers, fine for mash, chick size. C. B. Charcoal Co., R. F. D. No. 3, Bridgewater, Mass.

FAVEROLLES.

SALMON FAVEROLLES. Three strains exhibition and breeding birds, all ages, not akin, \$3 to \$10 each. A. L. Leigh, Newbury, Mass.

FERRETS.

FERRETS, Scotch Collie pups, and hooded bitches. Write Nelson Bros., Grove City, Pa.

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133 VALUABLE RECIPES FOR POU-LTTRY FOODS, Condition Powders, Remedies, Insecticides and other necessities contained in my formulary. Price \$1 postpaid. Send me your name for free circular. Dr. P. T. Woods, Box F, Middleton, Mass.

INCUBATORS AND BROODERS.

A 200 chick Marilla brooder overhead heating system. \$6. R. C. Hamlyn, Bellport, N. Y.

3 INCUBATORS and several brooders, nearly new. S. C. Elienwood, Milford, N. H.

A 250 EGG Cyphers standard incubator \$15. A two (2) compartment Cyphers outdoor brooder with stove and hover complete, \$7. R. C. Hamlyn, Bellport, N. Y.

JAVAS.

BLACK JAVAS, yearling hens and April hatched cockerels for sale. Circular free. G. M. Mathews, Brocton, N. Y.

LANGSHANS.

PEN ten nice Black Langshan hens and cock; Mountain strain. Also young stock. O. K. Aldrich, Whitinsville, Mass.

LEGHORNS.

ROSE Comb Brown cock's from strong layers, 75c. and \$1 each. Carman, Margaretville, N. Y.

500 S. C. BLACK LEGHORNS for sale at \$1 each. They are "Black Beauties," wonderful layers, and steady winter layers. Satisfaction guaranteed or your money back. Quimby & Brown, Box F, Ipswich, Mass.

500 S. C. WHITE LEGHORNS, hens, pullets, large fine stock and cockerels; heavy laying strain. C. A. Stevens, Box 2, Ransomville, N. Y.

EXTRA October sale S. C. White Leghorns, bred to lay, win and weigh. Good values in hens at 75c. and \$1 each. Fine cockerels \$3 each; write me. Emory E. Banks, Creekside Place, E. Pembroke, N. Y.

S. C. White Leghorn cockerels, large white breeders, winners. Write F. C. Gluck, Keene, N. H.

LICE PAINT.

ONCE A YEAR LICE PAINT will keep houses, brooders, etc., free from mites if used once a year; 60c. gal. Woodsdale Poultry Plant, Summit, R. I.

MINORCAS.

"MINORCAS, of Every Comb and Color," is the title of the very latest book on this variety. The author is Mr. Geo. H. Nordrup, known far and wide as one of the foremost breeders and judges in the country. This well written, well illustrated book, by one of the greatest authorities, will prove valuable and instructive to all lovers of Minorcas. Mailed postage prepaid on receipt of price, 50 cts. Farm-Poultry Pub. Co., Boston, Mass.

1000 Minorcas, best quality, 28 page cat. Geo. H. Nordrup, R. F. D. 2, Racerville, N. Y.

BLACK MINORCA eggs, \$3 per sitting. R. Story, 187 Arlington Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.

WHITE Minorcas. I make them a specialty. Can please you. Harry Leibold, Delaware, O.

ORPINGTONS.

ORPINGTONS. Single Comb Buff, Black, and White; grand exhibition stock, bred for size, type, and color; also good utility birds. Send for prices and matings. Sunswick Poultry Farm, South Plainfield, N. J. Rufus DeLafield, owner. George J. May, manager.

PHEASANTS.

PHEASANTS sell \$3.50 per pound in markets. Most delicious game meat; easily raised; biggest success. The Reliable Pheasant Standard, handsomely illustrated, 75c. copy, tells all about this rich stock raising industry. Not satisfied, money back. Large illustrated cat., colored plates, of ornamental birds, animals, game of every description, 25c.; swan, deer, standard poultry 90c. sitting; exchanges. Homers 70c. pair. U. S. Pheasantry, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

PIGEONS.

UNVARNISHED facts about squab raising, for stamp. W. G. Todd, East Bridgewater, Mass.

4 PENS extra large mated Homers, that raise 9 pound squabs, \$1.50 a pair; 10 pairs or over \$1.25. Guaranteed or money back. Erie Squab Co., 216 Quaker St., Orchard Park, N. Y.

1000 P. Rock mated Homers, winners 70c. pair; fancy pigeons, all var., cheap. Quail \$2.50 pr. Peacocks \$11 pr. Ferd. Sudow, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

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NOYES' BUFF ROCKS, 2 fine yearling golden trios, \$20. Cock (as cock) 2d Boston pen, '07, clear buff, \$10. Best eggs, \$1.50. Box 273, New London, Conn.

BARRED PLYMOUTH ROCK cockerels for sale. Gowell strain cockerels \$2 and np; sons of heavy layers. S. F. Cowling, Nethermill Farm, Mt. Carmel, Conn.

BUFF ROCKS for fall and winter shows, at reasonable prices. Hen hatched and farm raised. Solid Buff, bred from a long line of winners. Dr. Coolidge, Bristol, N. H.

BARRED, bred to lay, Gowell strain; cockerels and pullets from registered pen, \$1.50 to \$8, depending on mother's record. Mrs. M. H. Newell, North Woodstock, N. H.

BUFF Rocks exclusively; fine birds. Solid in color. T. D. Schofield, Woodstock, N. H.

POULTRY PLANTS.

FOR RENT, New Castle Poultry Plant, New Castle, Delaware.

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POUULTY POST CARDS, beautiful illustrations, 15c. per dozen, assorted or all one kind, 100 with your advt. \$1.50; \$3.00; \$3.50; sample free; other printing for poultrymen reasonable and up to date. Fluk & Sons, 14 South Fifth St., Philadelphia, Pa.

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FREE, 50 cards or tags with every order for printing; 500 noteheads, envelopes, cards, or tags \$1.25. Edw. B. Curtis, Fitchburg, Mass.

PRI NTED Stationery, good quality, neatly printed to order. Envelopes, note heads, bill heads, cards, labels or shipping tags; 100, 45c.; 250, 90c.; pre'd; samples. E. L. French, Dept. E, Bedford, Mass.

ROUP CURE.

POUULTYMEN, ATTENTION! Rooster's Royal Roup Pills will cure roup, colds and distempers; easy to give; results certain; 50c. and 25c. a box. The Jets Mfg. Co., Box H, 591, Cuba, N. Y.

RHODE ISLAND REDS.

EGGs from Shove's Rose and Single Comb Rhode I. Reds and Houdans, \$2 for 13; \$5 for 40; have been breeding them for the last ten years. Also Pekin ducks and Homer pigeons. Be sure and send for circular. A few good birds for sale. D. P. Shove, Fall River, Mass.

HOUSE ROCK POULTRY FARM, R. I. Reds won Boston, 1908, 1st cock; 1, 2, 3, 4 cock; 2d pullet; 3d pen. Rose Combs. Send stamp for mating list. G. M. Bryant, prop., P. O. Box 6, Wollaston, Mass.

ROSE COMB RHODE ISLAND REDS. George Howard, Jr., South Bound Brook, N. J.

Rumpless Fowls. (R. J. D.)—"Would like to inquire as to Rumpless fowls. Have they deteriorated, and what is their practicability? Do you know of any breeders of them in the New England states?"

I could not, without a search, give the name of a breeder of Rumpless anywhere. I don't remember when I last saw one. Have seen them only occasionally at shows in the last ten years. It seems to me I used to see more of them at the country fairs in Illinois when I was a boy, and in yards there, than I have ever seen since. I remember very vividly some Rumpless belonging to a livery stable keeper a few blocks from my house. He had a cock and a number of hens. They were a rugged thrifty lot. The cock was of medium size, very plump and active, and a black red in color. There were several hens of various colors. I presume a part of them were the tailless progeny of this cock with the common hens in the flock.

To Keep Eggs. (Mrs. B. C. H.)—"What is the best way to keep eggs good and fresh?"

At this season of the year eggs can be put in a cool cellar and kept in good condition for months. To further insure their keeping, some pack in salt or bran. Earlier in the season, liming and other methods of preserving are used.

Pullets at Moderate Prices.

Anyone wishing to get a good start in the poultry business this fall, or poultrymen who have been disappointed in their season's work will do well to write to the Highland Farms for their illustrated circular describing the good qualities of their birds. See ad. on outside back cover.

Important to Bee Keepers.

The Massachusetts Agricultural Experiment Station has just issued a bulletin which every bee keeper in the state should have.

It appears, as a result of a careful investigation by the author of the bulletin, Mr. Burton N. Gates, expert in apiculture, U. S. Department of Agriculture, that two of the worst diseases which are known to affect bees are widely prevalent throughout the state. The bulletin shows the localities in which these diseases are known to be prevalent, and briefly describes a method of treatment, fortunately comparatively easy, which will insure their eradication.

Every bee keeper who has not already received a copy should send for the bulletin. Address, Massachusetts Agricultural Experiment Station, Amherst, Mass.

A Strong Guaranty Backed by a National Surety Bond.

Lots of roofings are guaranteed, and many makers will send an attractive piece of paper which promises that the roofing will make good for a specified period.

The makers of Congo Roofing have gone further than this. They have induced the National Surety Company to supply a guarantee bond with every roll of Congo Roofing. These are not the bonds of the Congo Roofing people, but the National Surety Company's own script, and of course they are as good as gold. Even if the makers of Congo Roofing should go bankrupt or go out of business, the bonds would still be good.

Of course, the real protection to the purchaser lies in the fact that the makers, who know their roofing, are so confident of it that they are willing to go heavy bonds to a responsible concern and guarantee the durability of their Congo Roofing. A purchaser of 3-ply Congo is certain of at least 10 years of thorough protection.

Further information regarding this interesting proposition can be obtained, on request, from the United Roofing & Manufacturing Co., West End Trust Bldg., Philadelphia, Pa.

2000 RHODE Island Reds; stock for sale; prices reasonable; free circular. Elmwood Poultry Farm, Box A, Bridgewater, Mass.

240 EGG strain Rose and Single R. I. Reds, fall and winter eggs \$1.50, \$6 and \$15 per 100. My Reds lay right through 40 degrees. Eleven years a breeder. E. S. Piper, North Haven, Maine.

100 S. C. REDS, nice yearlings, at 85c. E. A. James, So. Sherborn, Mass.

SUPERB stock Single Comb Reds, Standard bred, farm reared; peerless egg and flesh producers. Circ. free. John D. W. Bodfish, West Barnstable, Mass.

WANTED.

EXPERIENCED POULTRYMAN (35) married, wants situation; good picker and farmer; temperate. Geo. Thew, Assonet, Mass.

YOUNG MAN wishes position on poultry farm or gentleman's place. Several years experience. I. D. Hansen, Fishers Island, N. Y.

LIVE POULTRY WANTED. We are paying 16c. to 22c. per lb. for pullets; 10c. to 15c. for hens; 12c. to 15c. for chickens. Immediate returns. The Park & Pollard Co., 46 Canal St., Boston, Mass.

YOUNG man desires learn farming, poultry business; willing, small wages. Box 55, Towanda, Pa.

WYANDOTTES.

BUSINESS W. Wyandottes. Stock for sale; trap nests used. Michael K. Boyer, Hammon, N. J.

WHITE Wyandottes. The Triumph strain has a national reputation for beauty, utility, and especially for heavy laying of large brown eggs. A few extremely fancy cockerels for sale. They are farm raised, large, vigorous, shapely and white. Also a few R. I. Red cockerels, bred on another farm. They are from a heavy laying strain, and will please you. W. E. Mack, West Woodstock, Vt.

SILVER Wyandottes, winners of more first prizes in the leading shows than any strain in America. Am now offering 50 per cent of my breeders for sale at low prices, as I shall not sell any more eggs for hatching. Will have young stock for the fall shows that will win. Also Boston Terriers of a high grade. J. C. Jodrey, Box A, Danvers, Mass.

1000 Col. cks, hens, c'ks and pul's from \$1 ea. Prof. John Evans, Arlington Park, R. I.

WHITE Wyandotte cockerels at \$2 to \$3 each. P. H. Kuhl, Copper Hill, N. J.

DUSTON'S White Wyandottes. Ten cocks, one hundred hens, white and shapely, must be sold by Nov. 1st, and offer for \$100. A fine lot of breeders. H. F. Hallet, Ashfield, Mass.

WHITE WYANDOTTE cockerels from Martin's and Nixon's eggs, May hatch, \$3; pullets, \$2. W. T. Barker, Woodstown, N. J.

SILVER PENCILED Wyandottes, 2 cocks, each 2 firsts. One A I pullet breeder, the other A I cockerel breeder. A few fine hens and a few grand Belgian hares at lowest prices. G. W. Felton, Cliftondale, Mass.

A FEW White Wyandotte cockerels, \$2 each. R. C. Hamlyn, Bellport, N. Y.

WHITE AND BUFF WYANDOTTES. Big blocky farm raised; heavy layers brown eggs. Shape, color, comb, eye right. Regular winners leading shows 10 years. Cockerels, \$2, \$3, \$4 each; stock prices right. C. E. Davis, Warner, N. H.

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Made of High Carbon Double Strength Coiled Wire. Heavily Galvanized to prevent rust. Have no agents. Sell at factory prices on 30 days' free trial. We pay all freight. 37 heights of farm and poultry fence. Catalog free. COILED SPRING FENCE CO. Box 53 Winchester, Indiana

WINNERS

of the White Wyandotte Cup at Barnstable, Sept., 1908. 400 yearling breeding hens, \$1 to \$1.50 each; cocks and cockerels, \$2 to \$5 each. Bred for business; must make room for growing stock.

CHARLES C. RYDER, Cummaquid, Mass.

MAKE YOUR OWN CUT GREEN BONE

It's a very easy, simple operation with a CROWN Bone Cutter. Green bone makes eggs, and stimulates the hen's productive organs. Cut bone fresh every day. The Crown does it quickly with no bother or muss. 25 years building cutters. Write for free catalog. WILSON BROS., Box 648, EASTON, PA.

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Begin now for best winter results. Darling's Foods receive highest approval as a **Regule** Feeding System. Mylar, healthy fowls, strong layers, big profits. 100-lb. bag \$1.50. Forcing Food, 5-lb. Food, Scratching Food, 3-lb. Beef Scraps \$1.75. New York. Cash with order. Write nearest office. Free C.O.D. DARLING & CO., Box 54, Union Stock Yards, Chicago. Box 54, Long Island City, N. Y.

LAMBERT'S Death-to-Lice Powder

For sitting hens, laying birds and show stock. It will kill body lice quickly, and will not injure eggs or chicks nor soil the plumage in any way. A standard lice powder for over twenty years. It's better today. Use it freely. It won't bother your birds. 1908 Pocket Book. Pointers, 10c. Sent free; 1c. stamp if you mention this paper. Write today. O. K. Stock and Co., Chicago, Ill. 424 Monon Bldg.

To say, when writing advertisers, "SAW AD. IN FARM-POULTRY," will benefit you—please them—and help us.

Cold Poultry Houses in Quebec.

WHO would have believed a few years ago that cold, and even very cold poultry houses would take root and grow in favor in old and already pretty cold, Quebec?

Still, these houses have now been adopted by the best poultrymen in that province, and their success and popularity are growing every day.

Leaving Ottawa, I called at Macdonald College (Vaudreuil Co.), where cold houses are in high favor and give great results. No curtain fronts there, but large windows facing the south, and kept open even in the coldest days of winter.

I then crossed to La Trappe, Oka., Agricultural Institute, (Two Mountains Co.)

There, again, cold poultry buildings are held in high esteem. Quite a few of them have a complete curtain front facing the south, with only one or two windows; others have no curtains, but are single boarded in front, with the exception, of course, of the space occupied by windows. The poultrymen at La Trappe told me that the proportion of strongly fertilized eggs had always been larger in their cold than in their warm houses.

On my way to Quebec I noticed from the train as I passed through Joliette City, a fine little gathering of stylish and up to date buildings I concluded to be a modern poultry plant. I was right, and consequently went down to see it (only one mile from the station). There also, cold houses are leaders, and shelter a lot of

Plymouth Rock hens which laid all winter nearly as abundantly as they do in the spring.

That Joliette poultry farm, if not as large as those I saw in New England, is just as modern, with its long and colony houses facing the south. The windows have a small curtain below and a small curtain above them for ventilation. No straw for a ceiling, as Macdonald College and La Trappe. Still, the hens are healthy and thriving.

I particularly noticed in that plant the indoor steam brooder, which appeared to me as a model of economy, effectiveness, and good common sense in building a consolidated brooder cheaply. But the most astonishing fact in the way of cold buildings for hens I witnessed in Mastai, or Beauport, at Mr. F. A. Gaulin's large poultry plant, a few miles from Quebec city.

Right there in the center of Quebec district that gentleman has wintered several hundred hens of American, Asiatic, and even of Mediterranean breeds, in the second story of a "single board" poultry house, and has kept the windows open almost every day of the winter, although these windows are almost ten feet from the level of the ground and well exposed to the wind. No straw for a ceiling there either, and no curtains even in front of the roosting place at night. The walls are only one inch thick, the roof is very light, too, and a more healthy flock I rarely have seen. GALLINA VIATORIX, in *Canadian Poultry Review*.

Poultry for Middle Aged Women.

EDITOR FARM-POULTRY:—Seeing an article in *Suburban Life*, by Mr. Geo.

A. Cosgrove, in regard to poultry raising, I wrote him, asking him if I could rent a small farm in his vicinity. He wrote me there were none to rent there for that purpose, but gave me your address in his letter of reply, advising me to write to you.

I am one of two sisters, middle aged, single, and have now the necessity of earning a living for ourselves, and having some experience in raising poultry and running a small incubator with success, want to rent a small farm to try and make a living that way, for all avenues of employment seem closed to women of our age. We have only the small capital of five hundred dollars, and thought with a fairly good house might help along with some boarders (both being good plain cooks). If it will not encroach too much on your busy time, would like your help if possible in locating somewhere. E.

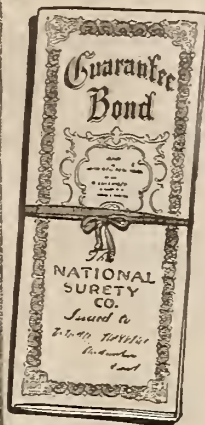
I don't think it would be any favor or kindness to Miss E. to help her and her sister locate on a farm with the expectation of making a living keeping poultry and boarders. Their capital is too small to go far when used by persons of, apparently, quite limited experience in poultry keeping. Under some conditions a

capable poultryman might make a start with that amount. I know a poultryman who started with less than two hundred dollars, but he was a young man, strong and rugged, and had had a number of years experience working for others, and knew just what he could do. And this man, in order to get ahead on his small capital, not only worked practically double time, but for years he and his family lived more frugally than the families of most day laborers live.

I suppose that in the case above stated, the idea of the sisters is to keep together. Everyone can sympathize with their wish to do so, but everyone at all conversant with experiences of people in their situation, at their time of life, knows how hard it is for those who are so situated to make such arrangements as they wish. If poultry, on full consideration, seems the best thing for them to go into, it would be better for them before engaging in it for themselves to learn something of poultry keeping on a larger scale than they seem to have tried. We have had at different times in the past inquiries from people in want of help who had places that (I would suppose) would just suit one of these sisters for awhile. As, for instance, a woman engaged in poultry keeping who wanted a woman interested in poultry as a companion and assistant both indoors and out; or a poultryman who wanted a house keeper interested in poultry and able to do some of the lighter poultry work. I don't know at present of any such place, but there may be some. At least one of the sisters ought to acquire some experience in handling a moderately large stock of hens before going into poultry keeping for themselves.

I would suggest, too, that if an arrangement is made to work on a poultry farm it be on a compensation appropriate to the service given, and be continued long enough to give real practice in poultry keeping. To exchange service for instruction, as is sometimes done, is likely to be unsatisfactory to one of the parties to the arrangement, if not to both. A person who cannot earn the wages of a farm hand or a general housework girl about a poultry plant, is not of much use there, and not at all likely to make a success of poultry keeping. It is much better for one who wants to learn poultry keeping to go as a worker and pick the business up slowly while earning wages than to go as a "student," expecting to be shown everything at once, and to leave in a few weeks or months.

A GUARANTEE BOND with EVERY ROLL



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The Surety Bond Guarantee back of Congo makes it the most attractive roofing proposition on the market.

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This Bond covers a period of 10 years.

It is broad, liberal protection to the purchaser. It means we have faith in Congo. It protects you absolutely!

A good many roofings carry guarantees of different characters, but not a single one of them gives the purchaser a *Surety Bond*. That's the only kind of guarantee worth having!

We know Congo is the surest protection against weather, climatic changes, heat and cold, for it is absolutely not affected by any of these. It never dries out, cracks or melts, and so perfect a roof protection does it make that it is aptly called the "Never-Leak" Roof. If we were not sure of these facts we wouldn't dare give a *Surety Bond* with every roll.

Send for a sample and further information to-day.

SPECIAL NOTICE—If any Congo rolls that you purchase do not contain Guarantee Bonds, write us at once, telling us where and from whom they were purchased, and we will at once mail you the missing bonds.

United Roofing & Manufacturing Co.

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A FLEA BITE

Read carefully the reports of the number of birds in the White Wyandotte Classes

In the shows east and west. Compare with New York. Then consider that this country and Canada have been secured for winners; that birds scoring 96 points and better in these large outside shows do not get a "look in," and you will have an idea of what quality it takes to win at New York. Then you will appreciate that these shows are a mere flea-bite, and that my winnings for years at New York and Boston is the reason why my strain stands at the very top, and DUSTON is a name to conjure with. My stock this season is superior to anything that I ever had. Stock always for sale. If you want winners for the early and late shows I can furnish you the goods. Send four cents in stamps for catalogue to the man who made famous the White Wyandottes, and made possible the World's Best Flocks.

ARTHUR C. DUSTON

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To say, when writing advertisers, "SAW AD. IN FARM-POULTRY," will benefit you — please them—and help us.



MARKET REVIEW.

BOSTON.

Boston Produce Market Report.

Eggs.

The market remains about as last reported. Demand is not very active, but receipts are moderate, and choice fresh arrivals are held for full prices, some fancy graded and candled northwestern ranging up to 24c., and special marks of western selling at 23c. There is still considerable off grade stock on the market, however, which is working out at about former prices. Dirties selling at 13@16c. as to quality. Refrigerators firm, fancy early packed at 21½@22c. Fancy henry firm at 16c., and some sales reported at 15c.

Quotations at Mark.

Fancy henry.....	31. @22
Me., Vt., N. H., extras.....	28. @
Me., Vt., N. H., common to good.....	20. @24
Northwestern, graded and candled.....	23. @24
Iud., Ills. and N. Ohio, selected.....	22. @23
Other choice western.....	20. @21
Western common to good.....	16. @18
Western dirties.....	13. @16

Refrigerators—

Early packed, fancy.....	21½. @22
Summer packed, choice.....	19½. @20½
Summer packed, common to good.....	18. @19

Dressed Poultry.

Choice large western fowls have a moderate sale at 13½@14c. Mixed sizes are plenty, and moving slowly at 12@13c. Very few sales of western broilers at over 15c. Small sales of 3½ to 4 lbs. roasting chickens at 15@16c. Young turkeys coming in small lots, but generally undesirable in size and quality, very few good enough to bring over 22@23c. Old turkeys in light supply and good demand; best lots at 22c. Old cocks steady at 10c.

Choice northern and eastern fowls continue in good supply and moderate demand. Chickens in good, fair supply and steady demand, but roasting chickens have to be fancy to bring 25c. Choice broilers steady at 17@18c. Ducks steady at 15@16c.

Fresh Killed Northern and Eastern—

Fowls, choice.....	15. @
Fowls, common to good.....	13. @14
Chickens, 4 lbs. and over per lb.....	23. @25
Chickens, mixed sizes.....	17. @19
Green ducks, per lb.....	15. @16

Nearby Broilers—

Choice 3½ to 4 lbs. to pair, per lb.....	17. @18
Fair to good.....	15. @16
Pigeons, choice, per doz.....	\$1.50 @
Pigeons, common to good.....	75 @ \$1.00
Squabs, per dozen.....	150 @ 2.00

Western Ice-packed—

Turkeys, spring per lb.....	22. @23
Turkeys, old per lb.....	20. @22
Fowls, choice, large.....	13½. @14
Fowls, common to good.....	12. @13
Chickens, 3½ to 4 lbs. each per lb.....	15. @16
Broilers per lb.....	14. @15
Old cocks per lb.....	10. @

Live Poultry.

There is a steady demand for choice eastern fowls at 13c. Choice chickens steady at 14@15c.

Fowls, per lb.....	12. @13
Spring chickens, per lb.....	14. @15
Roosters, per lb.....	8. @

NEW YORK.

From the Producers' Price Current.

Eggs.

Receivers are complaining of the quality of much of the supply; many lots that were relatively fine a week or more ago showing more serious mixture with stale, shrunken eggs. Really fancy stock, showing a large proportion of new eggs, is in light supply, and sells quite readily at 24@24½c.; some fastidious buyers show a willingness to pay even a little more for stock that would come up to their high ideas of quality. Medium grades, including the rank and file of ungraded regular packings, are slow owing to the competition with storage eggs, and most sales of these range 21@22½c., some inferior lots going lower. Dirties and checks firm. Storage eggs are in moderate demand, and held steady at unchanged prices.

State, Pennsylvania, and nearby fresh are in moderate supply and of irregular quality and value; fancy stock holds steady. We quote selected white, fancy, 31@32c.; do., fair to choice, 25@30c. Brown and mixed, fancy, 27@28c.; do., fair to choice, 24@26c.; lower grades, 21@23c.

N. Y. Mercantile Exchange Official Quotations.	
Fresh gathered, extras, per doz.....	24. @28
Fresh gathered, extra firsts.....	24. @24
Fresh gathered, firsts.....	22. @22
Fresh gathered, seconds.....	20½. @21½
Fresh gathered, thirds.....	19. @20
Dirties, fresh gathered, No. 1 (candled).....	18½. @19
Dirties, fresh gathered, No. 2.....	17. @18
Dirties, inferior.....	11. @15
Checks, fresh gathered, fair to prime.....	15. @17
Checks, inferior.....	9. @13
Refrigerator, firsts, charges paid for season.....	22. @24
Refrigerator, firsts, on dock.....	20½. @21½
Refrigerator, seconds, charges paid for season.....	20. @21
Refrigerator, seconds, on dock.....	19. @20
Refrigerator, thirds.....	18½. @19½

Dressed Poultry.

Supplies of fresh killed fowls continue moderate, with a scarcity of fancy heavy fowls weighing over 4 pounds each, and while trading is not especially active the feeling is quite firm, and prices show an advance of fully 1c. Spring chickens, however, continue fairly plenty, but without improvement in quality, and prices show little if any change, though fancy large roasting chickens and fancy small broilers are scarce and would bring a good premium if here. Continued general undesirable quality of the poultry

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11220 HEN EGGS

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CYPHERS INCUBATOR COMPANY,
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To Poultry Raisers**

Our Mammoth Incubators can be built any size to meet your wants. Don't you want to know how much you can save on Oil, on Daily Labor, Ease of Operation, etc., etc.? One big operator estimates it saves about four out of every five days' work in the incubator cellar. Read the article on the subject in this paper. If you know how much could be saved on your plant you would write to day for particulars. Address as below—

arriving is due to the scarcity and high price of feed, and continued drought in nearly all sections causing a scarcity of water. Spring turkeys are showing a little increase in supply, and prices a shade easier. Scalded spring turkeys have little demand. Old turkeys scarce and firm. Nearly spring chickens, spring ducks, and squabs, nominally unchanged.

ICED

Turkeys	
Spring, average, per lb.....	20. @23
Old, hens and toms, per lb.....	19. @21
Spring Chickens, broilers—	
Philadelphia, 7 lbs. and over to pair.....	22. @24
Philadelphia, 4 lbs. and under to pair.....	22. @
Philadelphia, average grades.....	22. @20
Pennsylvania, 4 lbs. and under to pair, per lb.....	20. @20
Pennsylvania, average best.....	18. @18
Pennsylvania, poor.....	14. @16

Western, dry picked, milk fed, choice.....	18. @19
Western, dry picked, milk fed, f.r. to good.....	15. @16
Western, dry picked, average best.....	15. @16
Michigan, fancy, large, scalded.....	16. @17
Michigan, average run.....	14. @15
Other western, scalded, average best.....	15. @
West'n dry pick or scalded, general run.....	14. @14
West'n broilers, dry pick or scalded poor.....	12. @13
Southern, average run.....	12. @13

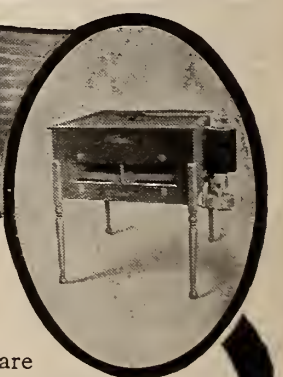
Fowls—

Western, dry packed, dry picked, fancy 4 lbs. each and over, in boxes, per lb.....	15. @15
Western, dry packed, dry picked, 3 to 3½ lbs. each and under, in boxes, per lb.....	14. @14
W'n dry-pick selected, over 4 lbs. ea., blis per lb.....	14. @14
Western, dry picked, average best, in barrels per lb.....	14. @14
Southwestern, dry picked, average best in barrels per lb.....	13½. @14
Southern, dry picked, average best in barrels, per lb.....	13. @13

Western, scalded, average best per lb.....	14. @14
Dry picked or scalded, poor, per lb.....	11. @13

Other Poultry—

Old cocks, dry picked per lb.....	10. @10
Old cocks, scalded per lb.....	10. @10
Ducklings, L. I., and eastern spring.....	15. @15
Ducklings, state and Pennsylvania.....	14. @14
Ducks, west'n, mixed, young and old, pr. lb.....	8. @12
Geese, eastern, spring, white, per lb.....	17. @18
Geese, eastern, spring, dark, per lb.....	15. @16
Geese, western, old, per lb.....	6. @8
Squabs, prime white, 10 lbs. to doz., per doz.....	\$3.25 @ \$3.50
Squabs, prime white, 9 lbs. to doz.....	2.75 @3.00
Squabs, prime white, 8 lbs. to doz.....	2.50 @2.75
Squabs, prime white, 7 lbs. to doz.....	2.20 @2.50
Squabs, prime white, 6 lbs. to doz.....	1.50 @1.75
Squabs, poor dark, per dozen.....	75 @1.25
Squabs, culis, per dozen.....	2. @50
Guineas, spring, 3½ to 4 lbs. to pair pr. pair.....	21. @20
Guineas, spring, 2 to 3 lbs. to pair, per pair.....	50. @75



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Improvements on Model Incubators for Season of 1908-9 are most valuable.

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Artificial Hatching and Rearing.

In a recent issue of its monthly crop report the State Board of Agriculture includes an article on the "Artificial Hatching and Rearing of Chickens," by Henry D. Smith of Rockland, Mass. Mr. Smith has had a great deal of experience in the production of south shore roasters, where artificial methods are exclusively used, and has been very successful in them. A copy of the report will be sent to any one applying to J. Lewis Ellsworth, sec'y, State Board of Agriculture, State House, Boston, and those who wish may have their names placed on the permanent mailing list.

Mr. Smith says, in commencing the article: "The hatching and rearing of chickens artificially has been practiced for ages, but the last decade has been marked with the greatest strides, as is shown by the vast number of incubators and brooders that are being sold and used, which means that the poultry industry is still growing. With all these incubators going broadcast over the country into the hands of the novice as well as the expert, the question very naturally comes up, 'Just what is the proper method for operating an incubator to get the best possible results?'"

Mr. Smith then proceeds to answer this question in detail, giving very careful directions as to the care of stock from which eggs for hatching are to be produced, care of eggs before setting, the best sort of place for artificial incubation, particular stress being laid on the question of proper ventilation, the temperature at which the incubator should be run, and in short, all the details of operation which are so puzzling to the novice, and in many cases, to those of considerable experience. He shows how the same machine may need entirely different treatment under different conditions, and indeed it appears to be the ability to adapt the general rules to particular conditions which makes the difference between success and failure.

Artificial brooding is then taken up and treated in the same common sense and comprehensive manner. According to the view of the author the question of heat is the most important one, and his method is to leave the matter mainly to the chicks themselves, providing a place which is too hot, and from this allowing the heat to gradually fall away until it is too cool, under which conditions the chicks will invariably find the place which is just right for them. How this is to be done as a practical matter, is fully explained, together with a great many other details as to housing, feeding, and management.

In closing the article Mr. Smith says that there is undoubtedly a chance to make a good living in the artificial chicken business, but that the question as to whether a particular individual can make a success at it is another thing, for no one can tell another whether he can make a success at any business,—chickens, dairying, sheep raising, manufacturing shoes, stockings, or watches, because so much depends on the individual himself.

A Thorough Breeding Establishment.

Our readers will be interested in a description of the Pittsfield Poultry Farm Co. plant, lock box 565 A, Pittsfield, Me., on which are bred standard thoroughbred Barred Rocks exclusively. In their interesting little business booklet they say:

"The Pittsfield Poultry Farm is a farm of 90 acres, located in the south part of the town of Pittsfield, devoted exclusively to the raising of thoroughbred poultry. It is a 'thorough breeding establishment' in the strictest sense of the word, employing only the most modern and sanitary methods. It is above all a practical plant; the buildings and appliances are strong and durable, but no money has been spent on fixings. All birds are reared on free range, and housed in open curtain front houses; 41 acres of the farm, good healthy clover fields are in actual use as runs for the chicks and hens; our free range is not a substitute for the real thing, but is strictly free unlimited range. The buildings on the farm, in addition to the

home of the superintendent, and the barn for the hay and straw, consist of an incubator cellar 28 x 40, with 20 largest size incubators, having capacity of 8,000 eggs at one sitting; this cellar is built of concrete below the ground; a brooder house 250 x 16, with capacity for 7,000 chicks; two laying houses each 430 x 20, with grain rooms attached; a third laying house 100 x 16, used for our special selective matings; 150 colony houses; 60 combination outdoor brooders and colony houses; and 36 brood coops used for special pedigreed chicks. The normal capacity of these buildings is 4,100 laying and breeding hens and 14,000 chicks; by normal we mean without overcrowding. The work on the farm, including the teaming and tilling of the land, is carried on by four men. It is difficult to impress you by description of the extent of this farm; one must see it at the height of the season to realize its magnitude. Visitors are welcome at the farm at all times, and will be shown personal attention by the superintendent. We have nothing to conceal on our farm, and are glad to show our birds to anyone and explain our methods."

Intending buyers of Barred Rocks of the highest exhibition or utility type should send for a copy of their booklet, which describes stock, gives list of winnings, etc. Mailed free on request.

Why Not?

In the discussion of the "Scientific Handling of Poultry for Exhibition," at the American Poultry Association institute, U. R. Fishel brought up a point we would like to see discussed. He said an exhibitor should handle his own birds for the judge, just as an exhibitor of horses, cattle, dogs, etc., does. Why not? Are poultry judges less capable of rendering fair decisions regardless of the ownership of birds than judges of other live stock? It has always seemed to us that instead of preventing dishonesty or unfairness this practice in poultry judging favored the judge who showed partiality, for it enables him to hide his partiality under the claim that he did not know to whom the birds belonged.

Incubators vs. Hens.

Editor FARM-POULTRY:—Recent articles appearing in FARM-POULTRY regarding others' "luck" with incubators have interested me greatly, and although my experience has been much different than W. C. L. and Mr. Ingalls, I have watched very closely the results obtained from those birds hatched in incubators and raised in brooders.

There are at least two makes of incubators—will not say this is all, but it is all of the six makes I have tried—that will give me as good average hatches as the hens, and we have brooders that will raise grand percentages of the chicks—of course this depends entirely on the care and attention—but our whole trouble comes later on when the birds are developed and go in the breeding pens.

I have watched very closely the difference between hens hatched in incubators and under hens, and my experience has been that the incubator hatched birds are about 50% less liable to give you good strong fertile eggs than the birds hatched under hens. This difference will not be 50% the first year, but after five years time, using artificial methods entirely, I believe anyone will find this true, and especially so during the early part of the season.

I have sold incubators for several years, and have watched carefully the results along this line obtained by others, and in every case where the incubator has been used entirely the outcome is the same.

The incubator is certainly a great help to the poultry industry, and I would take it every time in preference to the hen if I wanted market chicks; but when it comes to breeding birds give me the hen every time.

C. F. S.

A Good Start.

We are advised by Mr. P. W. Noyes, box 273, New London, Conn., that with his choice Buff Rocks at Connecticut fair at Hartford on 4 entries he won: 1 ck; 1 hen; 2 ckl; 1 pullet. Mr. Noyes has certainly made a good start.



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HEADACHES

10¢, 25¢, 50¢, & \$1.00 Bottles.

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Are no experiment, having been carefully selected and bred for over twenty years, with results that justify the claim that this is one of the greatest laying strains of Single Comb White Leghorns in existence. No labor or expense has been spared in building up and perfecting this strain, and while the production of large pure white fancy market eggs has been the main object, standard qualities have not been neglected. They are large vigorous, active, and handsome. Good winter layers, and keep at it all summer. Unexcelled for introducing new blood, or as foundation stock. Illustrated circular free.

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Choice Breeding Hens for sale at \$2 and up; Cocks \$5 and up.

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HIGHEST QUALITY BUFF WYANDOTTES

I hatched more chicks than I can house when full grown. I want to move some of the cockerels and pullets that are now two-thirds grown; splendid breeding birds, at attractive prices. Also, three cocks and twenty hens.

Dr. N. W. SANBORN, Box 366, Bellingham, Mass.

To say, when writing advertisers, "SAW AD. IN FARM-POULTRY," will benefit you—please them—and help us.

Green Legs Reappear.

EDITOR FARM-POULTRY:—I have been raising White Plymouth Rocks for a number of years, the stock originally coming from D. I. Roots, of the May R. poultry plant, Connersville, Ind., (afterwards bought out by U. R. Fishel). I never introduced strange blood till this spring, and have always had strong, vigorous birds and extra heavy layers. I have not had time to exhibit, but my birds have been winning right along in the hands of my customers, as they are very close to standard requirements.

I selected about 300 pullets for myself when they were about three months old. Among them I found 13 splendid birds, but they had green legs, the color varying from a pale greenish tinge to a deep olive. I culled these birds out and filled out the number with yellow legged birds. About a month later I noticed some green legs among the 300 birds, and culled them out, getting about 30 more. Since then the green legs have been cropping out here and there to an alarming extent, and some of the 5½ months old birds that I have selected for exhibition purposes are beginning to follow suit. I don't think it is any disease, as the ones with the green legs seem to be the most vigorous and best hustlers of the lot.

They are fed on a dry mash (almost the Maine experiment station mash) with mixed grain morning and night, and the only thing they have been cut short on has been green food, as everything in the grass line has been burned up by the sun this year, so all they get is lawn clippings once a day. They have grit, oyster shells, charcoal, etc., before them all the time. Therefore, it can't be the feed. Half of these birds have been raised on free range, and half in semi-confinement as an experiment, and those in confinement have outgrown and outdeveloped those on free range, but the green legs have appeared in both lots.

These 5½ months birds are laying now—(those kept in semi-confinement) and they are the best birds I ever raised—except their legs. I was in the United Incubator Co.'s store in New York the other

day, and their head salesman told me that they bought a pen of R. I. Reds from a breeder and that a week later their legs turned green, and they couldn't sell them.

If you can give me any information on this point and a remedy, it will be a great favor, as if this thing keeps on I will be afraid to sell eggs for hatching from these birds; besides, they are all the progeny of 200 egg or better dams for six generations, and consequently valuable to me.

D. H.
The appearance of green legs is probably due to the introduction of new blood. This might happen though green legs had been for generations eliminated from both lines of stock. It is often found that when different lines of blood are crossed a fault long bred out of both will reappear in their progeny. Greenish shanks were long one of the most troublesome defects in White Rocks, and though not nearly so prevalent now as a few years ago, come too often to suit the breeder, especially in females. In Barred Rocks greenish legs or legs spotted with green are common in the pullets when young, but the general tendency is for the color to clear up as the pullets come to laying maturity. When a fault of this kind, absent in the chick, appears as the bird comes to maturity, it is not at all likely to disappear again.

Mr. H. made a mistake in introducing new blood so extensively in his stock before he knew what would be the result. It is possible that these green legged pullets would make useful breeders, and with the right mating the fault would disappear in a few years, but the best way is to go back to the old stock if there is enough of it on hand. An experience of this kind makes trouble that continues for several years. It isn't advisable to sell any of this stock except for just what it is; nor is it advisable to sell eggs from it until it is known how the stock will breed. The probability is that birds of this year bred together would produce a proportion of progeny free from green in shank, and that would breed stock satisfactory in this respect. That cannot be known until the test is made.

Public and Private Mistakes.

EDITOR FARM-POULTRY:—In the August edition of your paper you publish extracts from a bulletin issued by the Maine experiment station which contains most startling revelations. While I do not wish to accuse any one who cannot defend himself, I cannot help but feel that if such work is possible under government supervision the people's money might be spent to better advantage. The excuse of faulty handling of statistical material, and arithmetical mistakes is the worst admission that they could possibly make. An arithmetical error might excuse a single false statement, but it cannot account for mistakes extending over years. There is only one conclusion to be drawn, and that is, that the person in charge was absolutely incompetent to deal with figures; but there are so many and simple methods of verifying results with absolute certainty that it is hard to imagine a government station sending out reports without proper verification of the statistical material. You must charitably say that even a negative result is of value. So it is, but not at the cost of nine years expenditure of public money. But where is the negative result? Does the experiment prove that like does not beget like? Does it prove that selecting prolific layers for breeders is energy wasted? Then does it not also prove that there is no such thing as an egg producing strain? Does it not stamp every breeder who advertises eggs for hatching from prize winning stock, or bred to lay stock as an impostor and a fake?

For years the poultry press has advertised the wonderful results obtained at the Maine station. Their bulletins have been sent to every part of the country, and the results published have been accepted in good faith. Now the public is told there was a mistake; the wonderful results only existed in our imagination. What will be the effect on the public?

Will they and can they in the future have any faith in the pretended results of experiment stations? The farmer has not overmuch confidence in purely scientific work, and occurrences like these will quickly destroy the faith that existed or began to grow in his mind. It will also affect the poultrymen. I do not deny that breeders exaggerate a great deal in some instances, but there are many who are perfectly honest and strive to please their customers. While a 240 and over eggs per year strain is very likely only in existence for advertising purposes, there are plenty of strains of various breeds to be found that will give better results and are just as vigorous as the Maine station birds.

But will the general public believe any assertion in the future? If they cry "fake," I for one cannot blame them.

I do not write this to accuse anyone of wrongdoing, but I believe that the results will do incalculable harm. Whether a mistake is made unintentionally or not does not alter the effect it may produce; furthermore the public has a perfect right to find fault when public money is used to such poor advantage. One may argue the public should not accept all that appears in print as incontestible truth; however, I claim that official reports issued by the government should be reliable at least so far as facts and figures are concerned, and if they are not it is time to see to it that such work is properly

"Bulletin 26"

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WHILE OUR STOCK OF 2000 R. AND S. C. REDS ARE UNEXCELLED FOR ALL UTILITY PURPOSES.

BREEDERS NOW FOR SALE; YOUNG STOCK AFTER SEPT. 1ST; EGGS FOR FALL HATCHING A SPECIALTY.

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Liberal regular Premiums. \$400 in Cash Specials. Partridge Wyandotte Club of America will hold Annual Meet with us. Entries close Nov. 14, 1908. Address for Premium Lists

W. I. BROWN, Secretary,
6 Exchange Place,

Providence, R. I.

controlled, or else it might better be abandoned altogether.

In the last issue you publish under the heading, "To Tell Sex in Young Chicks," a reply from G. E. S. to R. M., in which the farmer states as a positive fact that crossing White Wyandotte hens with a dark male will produce pullets with colored down, while the cockerels will be white. The above result may happen or be likely to happen, but is by no means an established and infallible rule.

I hatched this year 76 chicks from eggs laid by White Wyandotte hens mated with Black Minorca cockerels. Of the above number 39 were cockerels, of which only 3 were white, the rest being entirely black. Of the 37 pullets 28 are black, 6 white, 2 gray, and 1 buff. All the chicks without exception have black legs; only a few of the cockerels showed a tendency towards Wyandotte shape, while most of the pullets show the Wyandotte ancestry quite plainly in their shape. I may add that both parents are pure bred stock. A similar mating is quite likely to give different results. In fact, I believe, the results will always differ, as a great many influences come into play when making such crosses; but there certainly is no ironclad rule by which one could be guided absolutely. K. H. Ludwig.

Middletown, N. Y.

Questions like those asked by Mr. Ludwig have doubtless risen in the minds of many who have read the article to which he refers.

As far as the general public is concerned, this bulletin correcting errors will probably make little impression. It is quite safe to say that for years to come the reports now partially condemned by the station from which they were issued will be quoted over and over by people who will never hear of this bulletin. The permanent impression and remembrance of the correction will remain only with the relatively few who study such matters and keep informed of what is being done by the experiment stations. The trust in "official utterances" is also too general, too strong, and too essentially natural to most human beings to be permanently or even long weakened by an occurrence like this.

It is the author of the bulletin who says the negative result in this case is of value. It may have a certain value—a negative value, as all experience of this kind has. We need not discuss that further here.

As to the waste of money, while it must be admitted and, in a measure, condemned, there is something to be said in excuse. Government officials and experts are much like other men, and are not always men of superior attainments in their lines when first appointed. In fact, as to poultrymen, both in the states and in the national government, the initial salaries when positions are created have usually been so small that competent and experienced men would not consider them for a minute. Hence it comes about that the government expert, if he ever justifies the title, is trained at the expense of the government. The government, that is, the people collectively, is in this just like the people individually. I'm not so sure that the official is not a little better than the average individual when you get right down to the bed rock facts in a case. Take the average poultryman. He makes mistakes—lots of them. Often they seem inexcusable mistakes. One of the most successful poultrymen I know spoiled a lot of good chickens one season by suddenly switching off from the method of feeding he had used successfully for years to one that was being extensively advertised. Another once sent for me to come and tell him if I could what was wrong with his chickens which had begun to die mysteriously by the score. I was surprised to find that he was using a feed which any poultryman of a few years experience ought to know enough to condemn at sight. "Can't you see what it is?" I asked. "I didn't like the looks of it, but they have a lot of good testimonials," was the reply.

When the private individual makes mistakes and blunders or wastes his money, the loss is his own. The public may take note of it, but the public is not especially concerned. When the official makes mistakes it is everybody's business. We can all find fault with him, and if we feel so disposed can make no end of trouble for

him, even to the extent of his losing his place.

I'd like to see some of the men—poultrymen, writers, editors, manufacturers—all sorts of men who have been making misrepresentations of various kinds come out and own up to them. In the poultry business we are very tender with these people—most of us. (I suppose I'll have to admit being the disagreeable exception to the rule.) We poultry people deal gently with our erring ones as a rule. When they have reached their limit we let them drop quietly out of sight. For instance, somebody starts a new poultry farm, and claims to be making a great success of it. Because he says he is successful a score of writers begin to exploit him and his methods. His methods are all "model" methods. After a few years he drops out of sight—a failure—and in most cases we say nothing about that.

The Fourteenth Annual Chicago Poultry, Pigeon, and Pet Stock Show.

A reorganization of the management of the National Fanciers' and Breeders' Association, the promoters of the Chicago show enterprise, has been effected. Mr. B. J. W. Dietz, of Downers Grove, Ill., has been elected president. Mr. Dietz is well known as a successful fancier and breeder of exhibition Games, Game Bantams, and Rhode Island Reds. He is also a well known writer upon poultry topics. Mr. Frank B. White, of Oak Park, Ill., is the new vice-president. Mr. White is the president of White's Class Advertising Co., and well and favorably known in advertising circles. Mr. K. J. Muir, of Chicago, is the new treasurer. Mr. Muir is a breeder and fancier of pigeons and Black African Bantams. He is an expert pigeon judge, and is well and favorably known by the fanciers of the country.

The standing committee for the year are Messrs. Wagner, White, and Draper, finance; White, Muir, and Wagner, judges and specialty clubs; Muir, Kimmey, and Schureman, premiums; Kimmey, Burdett, and White, concession; Draper, Burdett, White, and Rigg, advertising and printing; Burdett, Draper, and Pratt, admissions and tickets. Mr. Kimmey will be the superintendent of poultry, and Mr. Muir superintendent of pigeons. The show will be held in Chicago, January 25—30, 1909.

FRED L. KIMMEY, Sec'y.

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By feeding fresh-cut raw bone—such as you get from the butcher's block.

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Hens can't lay unless they have food which is rich in protein. Grains contain but little protein, but all animal life is rich in it. In summer, fowls get plenty of protein in bugs and worms and insects. In winter you must supply it.

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You cannot afford to pass such a money-saver and money-maker for you. You can't get the best results without it. It means a saving in grain and an increase

in yield—a healthier flock and bigger profits. But don't confuse fresh-cut, raw bone with so-called "beef scraps," from which most of the nutrition has been removed by the process of preserving. It's the raw, live worm that the hen likes—not the dried up one.

It is fresh, raw bone that does the work—not dried "beef scraps" nor "bone meal." Raw bone may be obtained for almost nothing from your butcher, and it is easily and quickly prepared with

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—the only bone cutter made that does the work in a thoroughly satisfactory manner. We want you to try this machine. You don't have to buy it unless it suits—just try it first. To prove to you what it will do, we will send you any one you select from our catalog on

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It cuts all bone with adhering meat and gristle, never clogging, and wasting nothing.

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A Practical View of Hopper Feeding.

IN the poultry department of the *National Stockman and Farmer*, Mr. Homer W. Jackson has for a number of years been giving reports of experiments with poultry. From time to time we have quoted some of his articles in part, and occasionally one in full. Mr. Jackson is a careful observer and a thorough student, and his conclusions are well worth consideration. A few months ago we quoted some of his observations on the use of self-feeders. In a recent issue of *The Stockman* he gives a report of a year's special work and observation along this line with the results in tabulated form. We have not space for a full reprint, or even extended quotation in this issue, but give a brief review of his article.

His observations were made on ten lots of hens of various ages. The lots varied in numbers from an average of 16.6 for the smallest to an average of 73 for the largest flock, the total number being over 400.

He began by using corn in the grain hopper, and a dry mash of bran, shorts, oil meal, and meat scrap. This was the ration from August to December. During the latter month he began feeding oats and mixed grains in small amounts, and after January 1st put one-tenth oats in the grain hoppers, and fed a light feed of mixed grains in litter once a day. This was continued until April 1st. After that date the mixture in the grain hoppers was equal parts by measure, of corn, wheat, and oats, and the feeding in litter still continued. The changes were made to reduce the amount of corn consumed and narrow the ration.

Mr. Jackson says he found it impossible to get the hens to consume enough of the dry mash to make the ration, as they balanced it for themselves, either well balanced or economical. With whole corn and dry mash before them the hens would not eat enough of the mash to balance their ration. When other grains were added to the corn in the hopper they ate still less of the dry mash.

It was not observed that the proportion of overfat hens was greater than in other

years when stock was hand fed, but as it is stated that the flock was watched more closely than usual, and more sent to market because he was satisfied they could not stand unlimited hopper feeding, the reasonable inference is that had this not been done, there would have been more hens than usual either overfat or sick.

It was not found that the total amount of food consumed was excessive, but feeding was expensive because the hens ate more of the higher priced grains and meat scraps.

The advantages claimed for hopper feeding Mr. Jackson does not concede. The saving of time he thinks is less than is generally supposed. During the year beginning August 1st, he proposes to continue the use of the dry mash, but to feed grain by hand three or four times daily to all yarded fowls, continuing the use of grain in hoppers for the fowls on range. Writing after about a month's practice on this arrangement, he says that he finds it takes only an additional ten minutes daily to feed the grain to all yarded fowls, which does not greatly exceed the time previously given to weighing and mixing grains and filling hoppers. Of the point that the smaller and weaker hens in large flocks fare better with hopper feeding, he as yet finds no proof. As to the theory that the hens will balance their own rations, he avers: "I have never seen any hopper fed pen that seemed to have any interest in a balanced ration as long as there was corn in the hopper."

In conclusion he says: "Hopper feeding undoubtedly has a place, but it is probably a limited one. Drawing on my experiments with this feeding system for several years as well as the experiments here reported, my judgment is that with yarded flocks there is nothing gained by using this system, and something lost in higher cost of feeding, in poorer condition of the hens, due to insufficient exercise, and in the probability of heavier losses from deaths growing out of lack of exercise. With breeding stock also there is danger of cumulative disorders that may not be evident at once or for some time."

One Man's System of Selecting to Increase the Egg Yield.

EDITOR FARM-POULTRY:—Being very much interested in the subject of increasing the egg yield, and seeing a number of inquiries together with your comments, I thought perhaps it might be proper to state a method which I have personally conducted for the past four years. I usually start incubator as nearly as convenient to February 22d, bringing hatch off about the middle of March. Chicks are kept in nursery of brooder first week; second week are let out into the exercising room, and at the end of same are let out on ground. (I might add that I use the C. A. Cyphers Model brooder).

At the beginning of the fourth week they are removed to a farm in this vicinity, where they have free range until September 1st, when they are returned to their chickhood home to begin their useful duties. The pullets are put on the hopper system of feeding, which consists of the usual blend of hard grains, together with a dry mash which is compounded as nearly as convenient after that of the Maine experiment station.

As a rule, pullets start laying September 1st, but do not get well started until the middle of October. On November 1st I take my scales, leg bands, etc., and with the help of my wife, each bird is weighed, the development noted, and the shape and general appearance is copied in a book which I have for that purpose. Then in the house on the following evening I go over the records of the flock, and the numbers of those with the best development and weighing the most are selected and copied on a small strip of card board which I tack on the wall of their breeding pen; they are then separated from the rest, and placed in flocks of fifteen to the pen.

For the season, Sept. 1, 1904-'05, they averaged 125 eggs per hen as a whole of a

flock of 50 hens. For the season 1905-'06, 131 eggs each; for 1906-'07, 133 eggs each; for 1907-'08, 144 eggs each.

I will say that the breeds are B. P. R. and W. P. R. I have purchased cockerels for B. P. R. pen from the Wopsy Poultry Farm, Altoona, Pa., and secured cockerel from the Challenge Poultry Farm, of Peabody, for the W. P. R. Whether the steady increase in egg yield from year to year is the result of the careful selection of pullets, or due to the infusion of the blood of great laying strains, I am not able to say, but I have come to the conclusion that I have improved the average egg yield considerably, and also the size and color of eggs. Perhaps I may have sacrificed color, comb, and a few minor things, but I have strongly adhered to vigor, shape, and good development. I will add that flock has good average care; houses are kept reasonably clean, but are not coddled in the least, as there are never any windows in house in winter.

As an illustration of hardiness, on one of the coldest days of the past winter the cock bird of one pen pushed the wire from one of the windows, and was out on the snow all night, and on that night the thermometer went down to 3° below zero, the only ill effects noticeable from this exposure was a slight notice of the fore part of his gills. W. D. FENDERSON.

Brockton, Mass.

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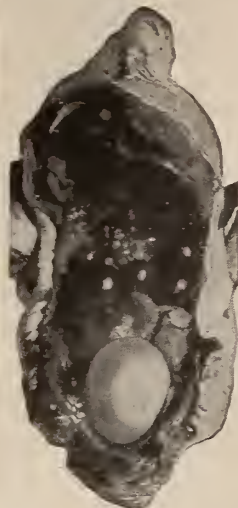
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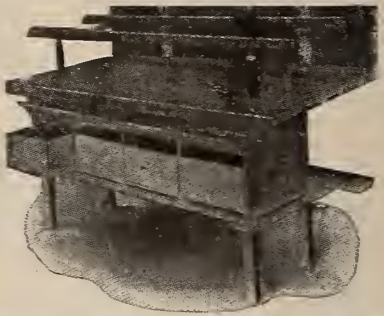
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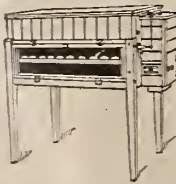
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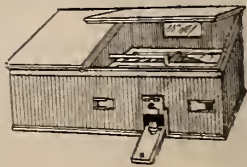
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One Thousand Dollars a Year in Poultry.

We have received the following request from a subscriber:

"Please describe a poultry plant upon which an experienced man ought to clear \$1000 a year raising poultry and eggs for market. Size of place. Number of head of stock. Capital invested in such a place, not including the place itself. Are successful farms of this size common? What can a man be hired for who would make such a place pay?"

The scope of this letter if done up in detail would involve a treatise on poultry which would fill several numbers of FARM-POULTRY, or make a good sized book. Then again, it is not possible to answer all of these questions definitely.

The poultry business is not an absolute science, like mathematics; neither are the men who handle poultry plants machines that can be depended upon absolutely in all emergencies and contingencies.

In the first place there are several ways in which an experienced man might clear \$1000 a year or more in raising poultry and eggs for market. He might do so by raising poultry exclusively, as the poultrymen who raise the South Shore roasters do. They have no egg market, and many of them do not keep fowls, merely raise chicks. Then again it might be done by raising eggs for the market, killing only the surplus cockerels either for broilers or roasters, as suited the convenience of the plant. This is done by the poultrymen of Little Compton, R. I., and vicinity. Poultry plants as conducted at the latter place probably will furnish the best example of a successful plant that we could cite. Here, however, the main object is to produce eggs for the market. The chicks are raised so that they may procure pullets to lay the next winter and spring, while the cockerels are merely a side product which are marketed either as broilers or roasters, whichever best suits the convenience of the owner of the plant.

The layers and breeders of these plants are kept on the colony plan in flocks of from twenty to fifty in a house, and several houses in a field. There are few if any fences, each flock having practically free range. But for the details of working these plants the subscriber is referred to Jan. 15, and Feb. 1 FARM-POULTRY, 1907.

These plants vary in size. The largest that we know of keeps on an average 1800 layers. It is estimated that hens when kept in large flocks by these methods pay on an average about seventy-five cents each. I would not want to say that handled a little differently they might pay more, but I believe that result could be obtained, and I would be foolish to say that they are sure to pay that, because anyone but the right party would probably handle them at little if any profit.

It is easy to figure then that to make \$1000 a year by this plan, one would need not far from 1350 layers.

The houses, constructed simply and inexpensively, as they are on most of these plants, would probably cost \$25 each—if well fitted and finished, perhaps \$30 each. These would house about twenty-five birds, and should be about 10x12 ft. in dimensions. The plant would require in round numbers sixty houses of this kind, which would mean in valuation about \$3,000. Of course, your location, price of labor and lumber, will have something to do with this item. If spruce boards are \$25 per thousand, and carpenters get \$3.50 a day for eight hours work, as they do in this locality, you cannot expect to cut this item much; but if you can construct these houses with help at \$2 or \$2.50 a day, provided they work as fast, it ought to cut the price of each house from \$3 to \$4.

Then the stock on such a place, including 1350 layers with enough breeding males to carry on the stock, a cook room, fittings, and the tools, would probably cost not far from \$2,000.

It is to be admitted that farms of this kind are not common, as we ordinarily understand that term, but exist, and several of them particularly in this section. Poultry farms on practical basis that pay do exist.

Paying poultry farms can be found in

nearly every locality. At least, nearly every one of the New England states has a large and flourishing poultry plant conducted upon a market basis. Successful plants of this kind are usually conducted by the owner, and the work is done by men who are paid ordinary farm wages.

A man of sufficient experience to conduct a plant of this size could certainly take a much larger one and make it pay. As an experienced poultryman would certainly want a large share of the \$1000 a year for his services, the poultry plant which pays \$1000 is usually operated and owned by a man who is satisfied with these profits, and to be exact, makes this his business.

Experience Feeding Rye to Fowls.

One of our Experiment Club members who had been feeding corn and wheat changed to a mixture of corn, oats, and rye, waste product from an elevator, a considerable part of the mixture being rye. He says the fowls soon refused to eat the rye, and their droppings began to smell strong.

Neither of these facts constitute proof positive that rye is injurious to fowls, or even that it is not a good food. The first time I fed barley to hens they showed a distaste for it, and it scoured them after a few feeds. I concluded that barley was not a good feed, and quit using it for awhile.

On reflection I came to the conclusion that there must be another explanation for the trouble, went to feeding barley again, and forced it on the hens—gave them barley or nothing, and they were soon eating it all right, and doing well on it.

When fowls have been long accustomed to certain kinds of food, they often refuse to take freely of unaccustomed articles, and any radical change of diet is apt to effect the bowels.

What the Trap Nests Showed.

Editor FARM-POULTRY:—Being where I can give it proper attention, I installed a battery of ideal traps. It certainly is the only way to know your flock. My 21 birds were selected for their vigor, condition, and general good appearance. The traps disclosed that one hen went to the nest daily, went through all the motions, but never laid an egg. She was in fine condition, comb and wattles bright. When I killed her I discovered the beginning of another case such as I wrote you of last winter. Eggs forming all right, but never passing out through the oviduct.

I discovered also that two other hens are hardly earning their salt, and that one hen lays every day. Also that two hens that lay an occasional double yolked egg missed but two days each in the month I have had them under observation, and neither miss happened the day after laying a double egg. The average was 23 eggs for the month, and that includes the hen that did not lay. F. E. B.

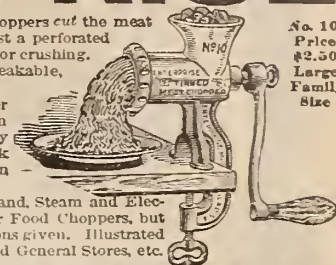
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Made in 45 sizes and styles for Hand, Steam and Electric Power. We also make cheaper Food Choppers, but recommend the above for the reasons given. Illustrated catalog free. Sold at Hardware and General Stores, etc.



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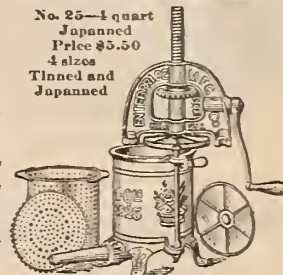
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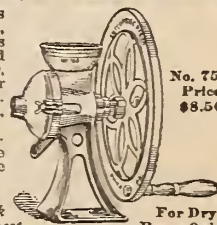
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- Chap. V.—A Few General Remarks on the Diseases of Poultry and Their Treatment.
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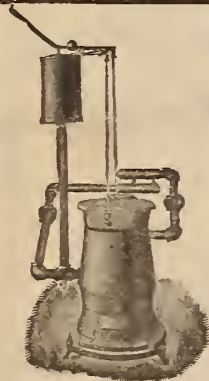
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